





## Sudanese rebels say rivals killed 145 people

NAIROBI (R) — A South Sudanese rebel group said a rival group massacred 145 people, mainly women and children, and wounded more than 250 last Sunday in western Upper Nile province.

U.N. aid workers were unable to confirm the casualty report but said the violence may have resulted from a cattle-rustling raid.

In a statement the South Sudan Independence Army (SSIA) said a total of 145 people, mostly women and children, were killed and more than 250 wounded last Sunday in Payinjar district for treatment.

It said gunmen of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) took 4,000 head of cattle, burned down 35 villages, destroyed crops and looted mosquito nets, fishing nets and books in the attack.

"On the other hand the SPLA left behind 90 of their own dead and two RPD46 light machineguns and three AKM-47 rifles captured by the SSIA forces in a battle that lasted for nine hours," it said.

A spokeswoman for the U.N. Operation Lifeline Sudan (OLS) said six aid workers for the International Rescue Committee and their camp cook were evacuated from the area Sunday because of insecurity but she could not confirm the casualty reports.

"The SSIA says it was the SPLA and some people may have thought it was a military attack because some of the attackers were in uniform, partially in uniform," said spokeswoman Liz Kramer. "But it may have been cattle-raiding, which has been going on in that area since mid-June. Cattle-

raiding is a traditional thing but as they now have AK-47s instead of spears it is a lot more dangerous," she said.

The SSIA, led by Reik Machar, urged the international community Thursday to condemn "this barbaric act of the SPLA against innocent civilians" and called for aid agency help to resettle people from Ganyiel after "this traumatic incident."

The SPLA denied Monday attacking Ganyiel and breaking a peace agreement with the SSIA, which split from it in 1991.

The rebels have been fighting Khartoum's forces since 1983 for more autonomy for the mainly animist and Christian south.

Meanwhile, Sudanese rebels movement appealed Friday to the international community to assist victims and survivors of the recent attack in southern Sudan.

In a statement issued here, the South Sudan Independence Movement/Army (SSIMA) said some 35 villages were burnt down and crops destroyed in the surprise attack, the statement said, warning that the "barbaric massacre would greatly jeopardise the ongoing peace process between the two rebel movements and create serious consequences."

"The desperate situation of the victims can only be alleviated if the international community and non-governmental organisations donated humanitarian assistance in the form of food, medicine, drugs, blankets, mosquito nets, fishing books and nets," the statement said.

It added that the attack had affected food crops in the region.

## U.S. plan to give frigates to Mideast draws fire

WASHINGTON (USIA) — A plan by the U.S. Navy to transfer six Perry-class frigates to Middle Eastern nations free of charge drew sharp criticism from Republicans and Democrats at a House International Relations Committee hearing.

Under the navy's plan, as presented by Rear Admiral W. H. Wright, assistant deputy chief of naval operations, Egypt and Turkey would receive two frigates apiece, while Bahrain and Oman would each receive one. Each of these transactions would be made as grants and thus involve no cost to the recipient.

A seventh frigate would be leased at a cost of \$3.1 million per year by the United Arab Emirates.

"My impression here is that you're giving away a lot," the committee's ranking Democrat, Lee Hamilton, told Adm. Wright. Committee Chairman Benjamin Gilman agreed. "It is obvious there is some skepticism with regard to these sales."

Adm. Wright defended the navy's plan in terms of the close relations the United States has with the nations involved. "I believe these transfers are essential to our future ability to operate with friendly countries in this volatile area," he said. "Both for the sake of interoperability and as force multipliers, the presence of these ships would be a manifestation of continuing U.S. commitment to those countries that have asked their national future on ties with the United States."

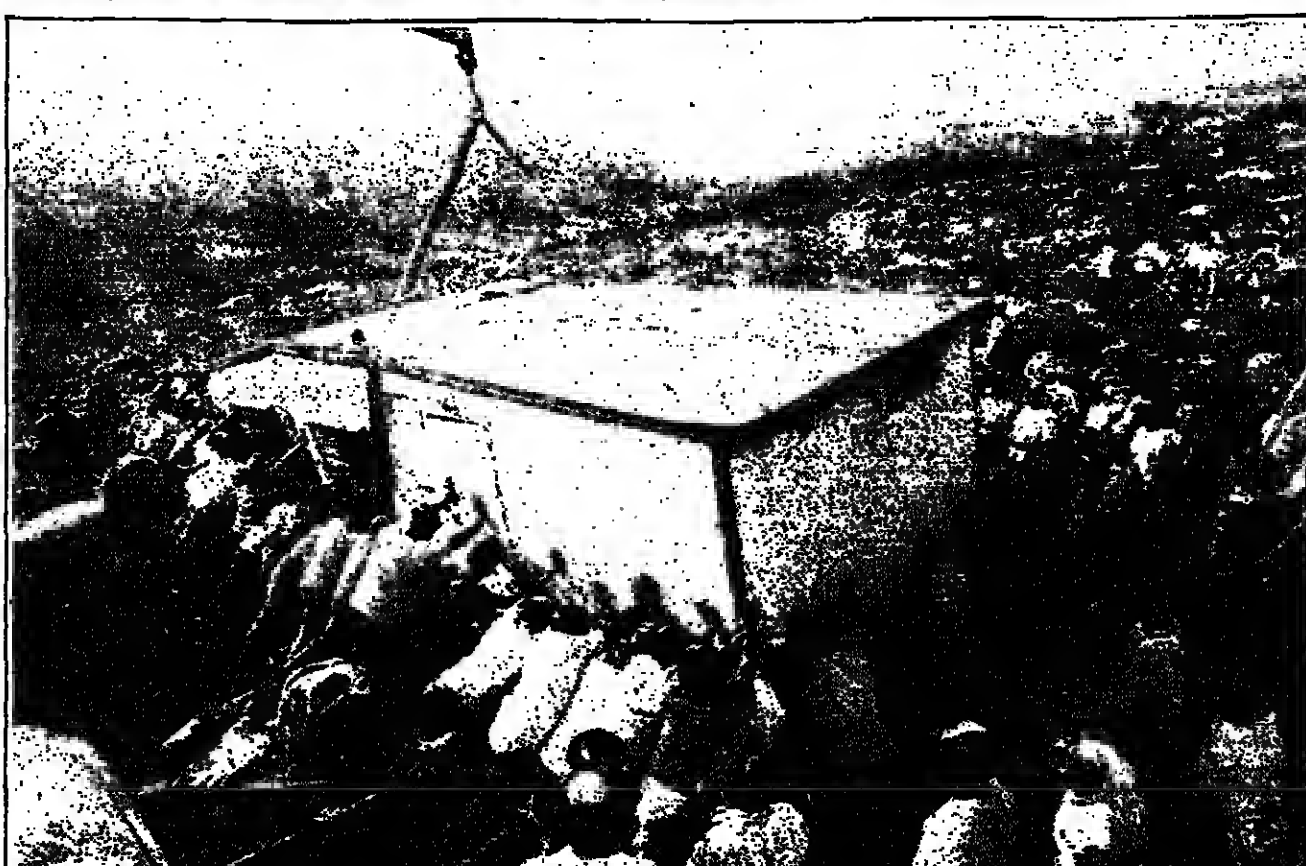
Adm. Wright pointed out that the end of the cold war had led a number of Western nations to reduce the size of their navies, leading to a "buyer's market" for those purchasing surplus ships.

However, he agreed with Mr. Hamilton's comment that the precedent of giving ships away would make it hard to sell or lease them in the future.

The navy, Adm. Wright added, has decided that it will no longer make available ships as grants.

## Youths try to set fire to Mary's Tomb

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (AFP) — Three Arab youths were suspected of trying to set fire to Mary's Tomb in East Jerusalem, police said Friday. The trio were believed to have smoked hashish in the Greek Orthodox shrine before stealing alms and setting fire to a wooden altar. A monk put out the flames with his robe. The church appealed for improved protection from Israeli police. "We do not feel secure," said Metropolitan Timothy, secretary of the Greek Orthodox Patriarchate.



PRELUDE TO A SETTLEMENT: Jewish settlers put up a caravan on a hillside near the settlement Qadumim (seen on top right). The 300 settlers that gathered here in the north West Bank area were confronted by hundreds of Israeli soldiers and police that started to evacuate them until a pledge from President Ezer Weizman made the settlers stop their action for a few days to try to come to an agreement with the government. The settlers campaign is aimed to stop the widening of Palestinian autonomy (AFP photo)

## Israeli colonel admits executing Egyptian PoWs

TEL AVIV (AFP) — An Israeli war hero admitted in an interview published Friday that he shot dead in cold blood as many as 49 Egyptian prisoners during the 1956 Suez War.

"I myself opened fire on 40 to 49 Egyptian soldiers who were captured near the Mith Pass," retired parachute Colonel Aryeh Biro, told the weekly magazine Jerusalem.

"I did not have enough men to guard them and we had to move forward towards

Sharm Al Sheikh," the southern tip of the Sinai peninsula.

He was leading a parachute unit of the 890th Battalion commanded by Raphael Eytan under Ariel Sharon.

Gen. Sharon became defence minister and is still a prominent MP with the right-wing Likud Party while Gen. Eytan, who was later made chief of staff, heads the far-right Tzomet Party.

The Israeli army's history department revealed in July that 35 Egyptians had been

massacred by a unit of the battalion commanded by Gen. Eytan.

But Gen. Eytan claimed he could not remember exact details. "It was war, there were battles. We were stranded, isolated and encircled," he said.

The unit dropped behind Egyptian lines at the western entrance to the pass, 12 kilometres from the Suez Canal, on Oct. 29.

"I am solely responsible for what happened," Col.

Biro said. "I consulted no one and my conscience is clear."

"But I would stress that I do not hate Arabs and I do not like war. It might seem strange but going off to war means killing the enemy to me and being killed."

Asked how he would have reacted if the enemy had executed Israeli prisoners, Col. Biro replied: "I did not expect my men to get captured, I expected them to fight."

## Alliance against Saddam falls apart — opposition

DUBAI, UAE (AFP) — The alliance between Arab and Kurds opponents of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has fallen apart and northern Iraq is no longer a safe haven, a leading opposition figure said Friday.

Retired General Hassan Al Naqib said the Iraqi National Congress (INC) alliance was "finished" and that the lives of Arab-opposition figures in

Iraqi Kurdistan were in danger.

He accused militiamen of the Kurdistan Democratic Party (KDP) of having searched his home in Salahadin, in northern Iraq which has been controlled by the Kurds in defiance of Baghdad since 1991, "to pressure him."

"I won't go back to northern Iraq any more because I cannot work properly there."

It's a hopeless situation," he told the Arab daily Al Hayat from the Syrian capital.

"The Arab branch (of the opposition) is the most important, and the INC is no longer capable of assuring the fall of Saddam Hussein," said the Sunni Muslim retired general.

Another key Sunni opposition figure, Waheed Al Samarrai, charged that KDP leader Massud Barzani had tried to have him assassinated since his defection to northern Iraq last December.

Mr. Barzani had "struck a deal with the Iraqi regime to drive out the Arab opposition from the areas he controls," said Mr. Samarrai, a former chief of the Iraqi army's secret service.

## Lebanese family probes son's mystery kidnap

BCHAMOUN, Lebanon (R) — Newspaper photographs show the boy smiling, but behind the happy face lies the tragedy of a family devastated by an unsolved kidnapping reminiscent of the darkest chapters of Lebanon's civil war.

Newspaper advertisements and posters of 12-year-old Amid Eid adorn road signs across Lebanon as part of the family's latest effort to solve the two-year-old abduction, which was followed by telephone demands for \$1 million.

"Our child has not returned home for two years. I don't see any security. My other son is not safe. I can't let him go anywhere alone," said Amid's businessman father, Nimeh Eid, 45.

"We want to keep this issue alive to reach a conclusion because the government is always talking about the security and stability of the state, but we don't see it," he told Reuters.

"Expatriates should think twice before thinking all is safe here. They should think of their kids," added Mr. Eid, who returned in 1990 from Liberia, where he ran a business for 25 years.

Sectional militias kidnapped an estimated 17,000 people during the 1975-90 civil war and few returned alive. But Amid was seized three years after the guns fell silent.

Police say kidnapping for ransom is extremely rare in Lebanon, even during the civil war.

"Amid was on his way to get bread. Suddenly a blue Datsun stopped near the house and the last heard from him was his scream 'father father' Mr. Eid said, choking back tears.

"I am living in a whirlpool," said his mother, Jinan, black circles under her eyes making her look older than her 36 years. "News of his death would be easier for me than this waiting."

The Eids' indignation at what they see as official neglect of the case prompted them to begin their own investigation into their son's fate. They are also turning the heat on the government to do more.

A visit by Jinan to President Elias Hrawi had no apparent result and the couple have failed to get help from billionaire Prime Minister Rafik Al Hariri.

"You can't even meet Hariri. I have made about 200 phone calls to Hariri's office. They always tell me he is either busy or out of the country or you can't see him," Mr. Eid said.

The Eids learned of the kidnapping a few hours after Amid disappeared when a taxi brought a letter from the captors to them in the mountain village of Bachamoun southeast of Beirut.

Telephone calls demanding \$1-million followed and Mr. Eid's offer of \$150,000 was rejected.

Police traced one call to a shop in Aley, a Druze mountain resort, and a second to Christian east Beirut, Mr. Eid said. They also traced the envelope carrying the letters and have drawn rough sketches of the captors from accounts of witnesses.

"But the police have made no further progress, so the couple decided to act on their own."

To put pressure on authorities to act, the Eids plan a protest sit-in. They already run daily newspaper advertisements offering a \$60,000 reward for information leading to Amid's return.

They plan to send a letter

to the United Nations and have appealed for help to Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, whose 35,000 troops in Lebanon give him enormous influence.

Mr. Eid has a list of licence plate numbers in the area of the type of Datsun car witnesses say Amid's captors drove.

"I am doing their work for them," he said after months glued to radio communications devices he bought for local police in case any news about Amid broke.

"I closed my liquor shop because I can't concentrate or work. All I think about is my son. I will follow this case to the end, even if I sell my house," he added.

After nearly two years without word from the kidnappers, the only solace left are photographs of the smiling boy.

"They're solving other crimes quickly. What is behind this one that no one wants to touch it?" asked Jinan, who has vowed never to set foot outside her home until Amid returns safely.

"Just let them tell me, even if he is dead. I will do a wake for him and then forget," she added.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

### Immigration to Israel climbs

TEL AVIV (AFP) — The number of immigrants arriving in Israel climbed two per cent to 34,500 in the first half of 1995 compared to the same period last year, the Central Bureau of Statistics reported. Despite the increase the figures were below the Absorption Ministry's predictions of 90,000 new arrivals for the whole of 1995. More than 650,000 people have flooded into the Jewish state since 1989, the majority from the ex-Soviet Union. The immigrants have boosted the population of Israel to 5.5 million people.

### UAE president to visit Egypt, Syria

ABU DHABI (AFP) — United Arab Emirates (UAE) President Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahayan will visit Egypt and Syria next week for talks on political and economic issues, officials said Friday. Sheikh Zayed, 78, will fly to Cairo Monday for a three-day official visit before heading for Syria for talks with President Hafez Al Assad, they said. The UAE, a key Gulf oil producer, has promised to provide financial aid to the two countries in line with an economic agreement within the five-year-old Damascus Declaration, which groups the three countries with Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman and Qatar. The Abu Dhabi Development Fund has already financed several development projects in Syria and Egypt through loans and grants of more than \$500 million, nearly 15 per cent of its total loans. Syria, which maintains good ties with Iran, has offered to mediate in its dispute with the UAE over the three strategic Gulf islands of Abu Musa and the Greater and Lesser Tunbs.

### Yemeni police seize 60 kg of hashish

SANAA (AFP) — Yemeni police destroyed 60 kilos (132 pounds) of hashish worth \$80,000 and arrested five Africans after finding the stash on the Red Sea island of Zukar, officials said Friday. The suspects, whose nationality was not specified, were trying to smuggle the drugs to a neighbouring country, said police, who later burnt the shipment. Yemen shares its borders with Saudi Arabia and Oman.

### Lebanese man held for cash laundering

BEIRUT (AFP) — Police arrested a prominent Lebanese businessman on suspicion of laundering drugs money after an investigation into a gang bringing large sums of cash into Beirut airport, legal sources said Friday. Ghassan Matragi, chairman of an import-export company who formerly ran a private medical care firm, is the most influential businessman yet to be arrested by the country's anti-drugs squad. His brother, Saeb Matragi, an unsuccessful candidate in the 1992 general election, is an in-law of former Interior Minister Sami Al Khateib. A legal source said the anti-drugs gang had dismantled a gang of traffickers but added: "The inquiry is continuing in the greatest secrecy."

### Wedding party ends in tragedy in Israel

NAZARETH, Israel (AFP) — A wedding party ended in tragedy in an Arab village in Israel when guests began firing shots of joy in the air, killing the singer in the band. Several stray bullets hit Abd Mohi, 40, as he belted out a dance tune before 400 people at the village of Kfar Mashahed, near Nazareth, on Thursday night. Police said numerous cars parked nearby were also damaged by flying bullets.

### 2 Turks admit rape of tourists

ALANYA, Turkey (AP) — Two Turkish defendants accused of raping four women tourists and then slitting their throats admitted to the charges at their trial, the Anatolia News Agency reported. Two of the women were killed in the attacks, which drew strong protests from the local population. Ali Guldali and Gazi Koleoglu said they originally denied the charges because another defendant, Hakan Karayavuz, threatened them with death if they incriminated him. Anatolia added. The attacks on a tourist from Georgia and three Dutch women occurred on consecutive nights May 21-22. After the sexual assaults, the assailants slit their victims' throats. The woman from Georgia and one of the Dutch were killed. Guldali and Koleoglu told the packed courtroom in this Mediterranean resort city how, under orders from Karayavuz, they had taken part in the crimes. Karayavuz did not testify in court, but said he would submit a written statement at the next session, scheduled Aug. 31. Shopkeepers closed their stores for a day in protest of the crimes in May. The defendants were forced to hire lawyers from Istanbul when local lawyers refused to represent them.

### Kuwait enforces smoking ban from October

KUWAIT (R) — A ban on smoking in Kuwaiti government offices, restaurants, schools and hotels will take effect on Oct. 1, newspapers reported. Health Minister Abdul Rahman Al Mheilan issued an order on identifying public places where smoking is prohibited under anti-smoking legislation passed by parliament on May 2. Al Watan and the English-language Arab Times said. The ban, one of the toughest moves in the Arab World to curb tobacco use, also outlaws cigarette advertising. It has been signed into law by the Emir Sheikh Al Ahmad Al Sabah. The law stipulates that the ban on smoking in public buildings will come into force only after the government identifies the sites affected by the ban. All places affected by the ban must provide separate areas for smokers to use. Mr. Mheilan's order covers schools, libraries, Kuwait University, places of worship, hospitals, clinics, pharmacies, restaurants, hotels, indoor cultural and sports centres, government ministries, shopping malls and supermarkets.

## JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

### PROGRAMME TWO

14:00 ..... Back to the Future  
14:30 ..... Harry and the Hendersons  
15:00 ..... Road to Avonlea  
16:00 ..... Families  
17:00 ..... Children's programme — Spirou  
17:30 ..... Doc — Cast Pas Sorcier  
18:00 ..... Drama  
19:00 ..... S. News in French  
19:15 ..... Magazine — Fast Pas Revers  
19:30 ..... New Headlines  
19:35 ..... First Flights  
20:00 ..... The Bold and the Beautiful  
21:15 ..... Dr. Quinn-Medicine Woman  
22:00 ..... News in English  
22:25 ..... Film: "Touch and Die"  
23:30 ..... Fortunate Pilgrim

### PRAYER TIMES

04:21 ..... Fajr  
05:48 ..... (Sunrise) Duha  
12:42 ..... Dhuhr  
16:22 ..... 'Asr  
19:35 ..... Maghreb  
21:02 ..... Isha

### CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church  
Swedish Tel. 810740  
Assemblies of God Church Tel.  
637835  
St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590.  
Church of the Annunciation Tel.  
637440.  
De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

## TERRESTRIAL CHURCH

Tel: 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel.  
623541.  
Anglican Church Tel. 630851. Tel.  
628543.  
Armenian Catholic Church Tel.  
771331.  
Armenian Orthodox Church Tel.  
775261.  
Armenian International Church Tel.  
652526.  
Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel:  
824322.  
German-speaking Evangelical Congregation Tel. 664195  
The Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932  
Church of Nazareth Tel. 675691.  
The Evangelical Local Church in  
Amman Tel. 811295

### WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Moderate summer weather conditions will prevail with winds westerly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

Min/Max. temp. 17/30

Aqaba 24/37

Desert 19/34

Jordan Valley 22/36

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 31, Aqaba 38 Humidity

## JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

readings: Amman 47 per cent. Aqaba 25 per cent.

### USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

#### NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:  
Dr. Fakher Belbeisi ..... 663412  
Dr. Mazen Al Nballi ..... 830435  
Dr. Abdul Rahim Mustafa ..... 744605  
Dr. Basam Karadseh ..... 792020  
Firas pharmacy ..... 661912  
Ferdous pharmacy ..... 783336  
Al Asena pharmacy ..... 637055  
Najwa pharmacy ..... 626752  
Al Sulam pharmacy ..... 636730  
Yusuf pharmacy ..... 644945  
Shmeis pharmacy ..... 637660  
Najib pharmacy ..... 547632

#### IBRD:

Dr. Mohammad Al Hill ..... 279773  
Alquds pharmacy ..... (—)

#### ZARQA:

Dr. Walid Halaseh ..... 982779  
Khalilich pharmacy ..... 985417

### EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre ..... 637111  
Civil Defence Department ..... 661111  
Rescue ..... 630341  
Civil Defence Emergency ..... 199  
Rescue Police ..... 192, 621111, 637777  
Fire Brigade ..... 617101  
Blood Bank ..... 775121  
Highway Police ..... 843402  
Traffic Police ..... 896390  
Public Security Department ..... 63021  
Hotel Complaints ..... 605800  
Price Complaints ..... 661176  
Water and Sewerage ..... 897407  
Complaints ..... 771111  
Complaints ..... 771111  
Telephone Information (directory assistance) ..... 121  
Overseas Calls ..... 010230  
Central Amman Telephone ..... 681010  
Repairs ..... 623101  
Abdali Telephone Repairs ..... 661101  
Jordan Television ..... 773111  
Radio Jordan ..... 774111  
Water Authority ..... 680100  
Jordan Electricity Authority ..... 815615  
Electric Power Company ..... 636381  
RJ Flight Information ..... 08-53200  
Queen Alia Int. Airport ..... 08-53200

### HOSPITALS

AMMAN:  
Hussein Medical Centre ..... 813813/32  
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn ..... 644281/6  
Akilich Maternity, J. Amn ..... 642441/2  
Jabal Amman Maternity ..... 642362  
Malhas, J. Amman ..... 636140  
Palestine, Shmeisani ..... 664171/4  
Shmeisani Hospital ..... 669131  
University Hospital ..... 843945  
Al-Musharraf Hospital ..... 667277/9  
The Islamic, Abdali ..... 666127/37  
Al-Anbi, Abdali ..... 664164/6  
Istaitan, Al-Muhajir ..... 777101/2  
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh ..... 775111/26  
Army, Marfa ..... 891611/15  
Queen Alia Hospital ..... 602240/50  
Amal Hospital ..... 674155  
The Arab Centre for Heart and Special Surgery ..... 845199  
ZARQA:  
Zarqa Govt. Hospital ..... 09/983323  
Zarqa National Hospital ..... 09/900560  
Ibn Sina Hospital ..... 09/986732  
Al Fakma Modern Hospital ..... 09/990900  
Princess Basma Hospital ..... 02/275555  
Greek Catholic Hospital ..... 02/272725  
Ibn Al Nafes Hospital ..... 02/247100  
AQABA:  
Princess Haya Hospital ..... 03/34111

### FOR THE TRAVELLER

#### QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport Tel. (06)53200-5, where it should always be verified.

#### ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

05:45 ..... Jakarta, Singapore (RJ)  
08:00 ..... Damascus (RJ)  
09:45 ..... New Delhi (RJ)  
11:00 ..... Riyadh, Dhahran (RJ)  
11:00 ..... Beirut (RJ)  
10:30 ..... Karachi, Dubai (RJ)  
11:00 ..... Abu Dhabi, Doha (RJ)  
11:00 ..... Colombo (RJ)  
15:45 ..... New York, Amsterdam (RJ)  
18:15 ..... Istanbul (RJ)  
19:00 ..... Cairo, Alexandria (RJ)  
19:15 ..... London, Berlin (RJ)  
19:50 ..... Tunis (add) (RJ)  
20:40 ..... Vienna (RJ)  
20:20 ..... Madrid (RJ)

## Other Flights (Terminal 2)

04:20 ..... Vienna (OS)  
11:10 ..... Damascus (AZ)  
13:40 ..... Sharjah, Doha (GF)  
15:10 ..... Rome (AZ)  
20:35 ..... Cairo (MS)  
21:10 ..... Beirut (ME)  
21:40 ..... Larnaca (CY)  
23:20 ..... Amsterdam (KL)  
06:30 ..... London, Damascus (BA)  
09:35 ..... Antalya (TK)

## DEPARTURES

### Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

06:40 ..... Beirut (RJ)  
08:00 ..... Aqaba (RJ)  
11:30 ..... Amsterdam, Chicago (RJ)  
12:40 ..... Tunis (add) (RJ)  
12:40 ..... Vienna (RJ)  
12:45 ..... Amsterdam, New York (RJ)  
12:45 ..... Istanbul (RJ)  
13:10 ..... Paris (RJ)  
13:15 ..... Cairo, Alexandria (RJ)  
14:05 ..... Brussels, Amsterdam (RJ)  
19:50 ..... London (RJ)  
21:00 ..... Riyadh, Dhahran (RJ)  
21:05 ..... Larnaca (RJ)  
21:20 ..... Beirut (RJ)  
21:45 ..... Jeddah (RJ)  
22:20 ..... Bahrain, Doha (RJ)  
23:20 ..... Abu Dhabi, Dubai (RJ)

## Other Flights (Terminal 2)

06:45 ..... Beirut (ME)  
12:10 ..... Rome (AZ)  
13:40 ..... Vienna (OS)  
14:30 ..... Bahrain (GF)  
21:25 ..... Cairo (MS)  
23:20 ..... Larnaca (CY)

## MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.

Apple ..... 700/500  
Banana ..... 680  
Banana (Mukammal) ..... 620  
Cabbage ..... 100/50  
Carrot ..... 220/120  
Cauliflower ..... 150/100  
Cucumbers (large) ..... 280/180  
Cucumbers (small) ..... 180/100  
Eggplant ..... 600/500  
Garlic ..... 300/200  
Grapes ..... 600/500  
Lemon ..... 630/500  
Marrow (large) ..... 140/90  
Marrow (small) ..... 300/200  
Mushrooms ..... 130/80  
Okra ..... 750/600  
Onion (dry) ..... 200/100  
Orange ..... 420/320  
Peaches ..... 800/600  
Pepper (hot) ..... 130/80  
Pepper (sweet) ..... 160/100  
Potato ..... 360/200  
Siling Beans ..... 300/200  
Tomato ..... 140/80  
Water Melon ..... 120/60



## Queen Noor: Every member of society should contribute to the well-being of community

Following is the full text of an interview that Her Majesty Queen Noor gave to Al-Suhat Wal-Hayat magazine on Friday.

**Question:** What are the NHF projects in the realm of child health care what is its philosophy on health issues and its future plans?

**Answer:** The NHF has three projects that are active in the field of child health care; the Institute for Child Health and Development, which is directly involved in child health care and two other projects that are indirectly involved: the Quality of Life Project and the Population Programme for the Grassroots.

The Institute for Child Health and Development was founded in 1986 with the support of the Swedish "Save the Children" to raise child health care standards in Jordan by improving growth monitoring, diagnosis and treatment practices. It is the first and only facility to monitor and assess child growth and development. It conducts primary field research among children, and provides information to parents and teachers to increase awareness of early signs of childhood diseases and disabilities.

The institute includes a model Mother and Child Health (MCH) Clinic and also has a Child Development Unit, which provides development assessment and supervision of minor and moderate disabilities through play therapy, and designs programmes to improve the monitoring of physical health, psychological and social needs of children under the age of six. It has an aggressive outreach programme that provides follow-up care and education for new mothers and the entire family on hygiene, nutrition, family planning and proper methods of breast feeding.

The institute's main objectives are to introduce the concept of comprehensive child care to health professionals in the MCH services, to train child development specialists particularly in early detection and management of disabilities and to study and research the health issues of Jordanian mothers and children. Its emphasis on prevention and early detection differentiates the institute from other MCH centres.

Harvard University's Institute for Social and Economic Policy in the Middle East cited the institute as a model for its comprehensive approach and described its "psycho-social" services as the best of any country in the region.

The Quality of Life Project was initiated in cooperation with the World Health Organisation and the Ministry of Health. Its holistic development approach caters to the economic, social and cultural needs by integrating income-generating schemes, health, education, national heritage, the environment and community participation in the programme. The health component focuses on pre- and post-natal care, family planning and health education. The Noor Al Hussein Foundation has developed this project as a national model for socio-economic development in Jordan.

We are heartened that both the Institute and the Quality of Life Project have been recognised by international and United Nations organisations such as the World Health Organisation (WHO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) as model projects for the Middle East and the developing world. Furthermore, WHO is also planning to establish a regional centre in Jordan based on the methodology of the Quality of Life Project.

The Population Programme for the Grassroots is a three-year programme established in 1994 in cooperation with the government of Jordan and UNFPA. It aims at addressing Jordan's present rate of annual population growth by promoting awareness about population issues. The project aims at improving the well-being of the family by introducing mother and child health care clinics and birth-spacing in thirteen remote villages throughout

Jordan, which are served by the Institute for Child Health and Development and the Quality of Life Project.

### NHF philosophy on health issues

All our projects at NHF are based on a comprehensive approach that incorporates health education and medical services with integrated socio-economic development. We stress the importance of primary health care, empowering the communities to meet their own health needs and providing educational and training centres that support the national effort to raise the standard of health care in Jordan.

### Future plans for child health care

We at the NHF hope that the Institute for Child Health and Development will evolve into a regional training and consultative centre and will be affiliated with the National Children's Hospital, which is a long cherished dream for the people of Jordan. Upon construction, we hope that the hospital will be the first in the Kingdom to meet tertiary, secondary and some local primary health care needs of children in the 0-16 years age group; it will be accessible to all economic strata of Jordan's population. The hospital will not only be a centre for pediatric medical services, but also a site for graduate medical education for pediatric, surgical, dental and allied scientific disciplines. It will also include a centre for the assessment of child development, the treatment of cerebral palsy and will perform a comprehensive programme of family guidance.

**Q:** How does Your Majesty evaluate the standard of medical services offered by the public and private sector since Jordan has now become a regional medical centre?

**A:** The standard of public and private health care services in Jordan is very high due to our many qualified specialists and diverse medical services. To maintain the raise in these standards, Jordan must increase the number of public MCH centres and improve the performance and services of existing centres. Although the percentage of women who give birth under medical supervision is relatively high for the region and our child birth mortality rate is comparatively low, Jordan must strive to provide women with health services at all stages of their lives because women's health affects that of the family as a whole.

We also need to increase the availability of the essential services provided by public and private health centres to enable mothers to opt for spaced pregnancies. We should promote the formulation of multidisciplinary teams, which would include doctors, nurses, psychologists, social workers, physiotherapists and occupational therapists. As the Honorary President of the Jordan Physiotherapy Association, I am very concerned by the absence of physiotherapy training in Jordan and find it essential to establish rehabilitation departments in public and private universities, which would teach physiotherapy as well as occupational and speech therapy and would award the graduates university degrees rather than diplomas.

We also need to establish research and assessment centres for the early detection and treatment of childhood disabilities and to increase the rehabilitative centres for the disabled in Jordan, which currently only satisfy two per cent of their needs. Due to our region's young population and high rates of fertility and population growth, it is likely that today's 13 to 15 million disabled Arab nationals may reach 20 million by the year 2000. I do not wish to paint a totally bleak picture of our region, which can boast several notable achievements such as steadily rising infant and child immunisation rates, resulting in corresponding decline in infant-related disabilities, a sharp increase in social action by private and

non-governmental groups, the impact of education on traditional attitudes to inter-marriage and dealing with disabled family members and finally greater sensitivity to the special needs of the disabled in day-to-day life. Full integration of the disabled should go beyond traditional efforts to help them adapt to their environment through training and rehabilitation. As a society, we must adapt the physical and social environment to the needs of the disabled, particularly in planning projects undertaken by the public sector. This would allow them to enjoy greater independence and self-reliance, which are an essential first step towards their full integration in society.

**Q:** What are the most prominent issues related to science, health and child welfare that concern Your Majesty?

**A:** I encourage all mothers to breastfeed their babies as I breastfed all my children up to the age of seven months. The World Health Organisation (WHO) now believes that over one million children could be saved if all babies were exclusively breastfed the first six months. I hope that all hospitals in our country will follow the lead of two of our major public hospitals in adopting UNICEF's "Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative" by rooming a mother with her newborn child, promoting breastfeeding and discouraging breast milk substitutes. In addition to breast feeding my children, I also made sure that they regularly received their immunisation shots and it is a source of pride for me and for the country that Jordan's child immunisation rates against polio and measles are comparable to that of developed nations.

Physical affection during the early years for a child, which comprise one of the most critical stages in their development, is very important. I was struck by a study, which found that children who are constantly hugged by their parents grow taller than children whose parents did not demonstrate their affection physically. On my part, I maintained the closest possible contact with Hamzah, Hashim, Iman and Raiyah during the early years of their lives and continue to do so.

In addition to child health, educating children and making them aware of and active in global issues is vital. I got my children involved in environmental programmes from a very early age and am delighted that they accompany me on my tree planting campaigns and are becoming quite active in pollution and garbage control. School curricula should emphasise environmental issues and encourage their students to join community service programmes. The Jubilee School, one of the Noor Al Hussein Foundation projects, emphasises a diverse community service programme and its students regularly take part in environmental clean up endeavours.

Another project affiliated with Noor Al Hussein Foundation project is Jordan's first Children's Science Museum, which helps children understand the scientific and ecological cycles of life. The children can touch and manipulate the museum's exhibits to learn about the development of humankind through the ages, natural history, geography, science, the environment, outer space and the diverse cultures of the world. We also obtained a mobile science museum for children living in rural areas. Housed in a large truck, the museum's exhibits focus on health and hygiene, the sciences, environmental protection and the history of Jordan.

Regarding women's health, one of the most pressing issues is breast cancer, which is the highest incidence of cancer among Jordanian women. I have routine mammograms and regular self-examinations and strongly urge all women to do the same. Jordanian doctors also advise that women undergo yearly Pap smear screening tests for the early detection

of cervical cancer.

**Q:** How does Your Majesty evaluate the role of international organisations working in the field of mother and child welfare to combat the various disabilities and diseases afflicting children?

**A:** International organisations such as WHO and UNICEF have made great strides in mother and child health care by introducing various programmes such as the baby-friendly hospitals, urging international vaccination programmes, providing information on how to combat malnutrition and deficiency diseases and putting forth low-cost measures to combat childhood diseases such as breastfeeding, iodizing salt and ORT (oral rehydration therapy), which could prevent half the diarrheal deaths of children.

WHO and UNICEF in particular have supported out national efforts to combat the causes of childhood disabilities by focusing on disease prevention through immunisation and early detection and treatment of disabilities. However, I must emphasise that international agencies function through our national programmes — the more active we are, the more benefit we will get from them.

**Q:** How can we improve the role of national and international organisations working in the field of mother and child health care?

**A:** On the international level, countries should cooperate fully with international health organisations by assisting them in compiling accurate information, which would indicate the countries' strengths and weaknesses in mother and child health care (there are many areas such as the abuse of women and children which are not well-documented). This would enable international organisations to offer policies that suit the country's needs and are sensitive to the cultures and traditions of the country (especially in areas like birth-spacing). Countries should also ratify and implement the U.N. conventions on the rights of the child and the upcoming 4th World Conference for Women.

On the national level, we must enhance the role of women in the field of health and focus on women both as dispensers and beneficiaries of health services. This involves making academic and training positions available thus enabling women to occupy leading positions in the field of health. We should raise public awareness about the importance of primary health care, especially of mother and child health care services by educating women on pertinent health issues, developing health education programmes and encouraging the mass media to play an active part in the field of health education and awareness. It is imperative that we motivate support and upgrade the level of professionals working at mother and child health care centres by promoting the practice of multidisciplinary teams and encouraging community involvement in the work of these centres.

**Q:** Would Your Majesty say a few words to the readers of our magazine in Jordan and in neighbouring Arab countries and especially to those working in the field of health?

**A:** Every member of society can and should contribute to the well-being of his/her community in a variety of ways that include volunteering at various health centres, which are usually understaffed and overwhelmed, becoming "health activists" by raising public awareness on pertinent health issues, adopting and promoting a healthy life-style.

I hope that, as a country, we will work hard to maintain and improve the standard of health care in Jordan by focusing on a comprehensive health approach through the promotion of multidisciplinary medical teams, becoming more active in the field of research and subsequently developing national programmes that will tackle health issues of importance to our communities.

## Crown Prince warns of spread of Bosnia conflict, commends peace keepers

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Royal Highness' Crown Prince Hassan has warned against the dangers of expansion of the conflict to the former Yugoslavia beyond that nation's boundaries saying a spill over of the fighting would have grave consequences on the world at large.

The Crown Prince, who was addressing senior officers of the army paid tribute to the Jordan Armed Forces' role in helping the victims of aggression in Yugoslavia and referred to the Kingdom's relentless efforts to help bring about a settlement to the conflict.

Jordan has more than 3,200 troops serving in

Croatia in the U.N. peace keeping force.

The ethnic and factional fighting in these Balkan states should be halted before it is allowed to extend to other regions, Prince Hassan stressed, adding that this has been the position that His Majesty King Hussein has been promoting in his contacts with other world leaders to come to a just settlement of the crisis.

The King has been in contact with the leaders of many countries including Turkey, Greece and Iran which have direct relationships with Bosnian affairs, and he has urged these countries to exert efforts to end the conflict said the Crown Prince.

Before addressing the military officers, Prince Hassan met with Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Abdul Hafez Marei Kaabneh and his assistants with whom he discussed the role of the Jordanian troops within the U.N. peace keeping force.

Also Thursday, Prince Hassan received in his office Minister of Tourism in the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) Elias Freij and reviewed progress in the Palestinian-Israeli negotiations and reiterated Jordan's supportive stand to the Palestinian people and Jordan's keen concern over the future status of the holy sites in Jerusalem.

Mr. Freij said the PNA appreciates Jordan's backing of the Palestinian people's endeavours to attain freedom.

He briefed the Crown Prince on the latest developments in the negotiations on expanding the self-rule areas in Palestine.

Mr. Freij also outlined the problems facing the Palestinians with regard to laying the infrastructure for Palestinian institutions, and issues related to public services and water supply.

The two sides discussed issues related to future cooperation between the Palestinians and Jordan in different fields.

## Jerash festival sees rise in audiences

### Closing days blend folklore and classics

By Francesca Ciriaci  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The 14th Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts draws its curtains today on a folkloric note: dances by St. Peter Freienstein from Austria at the Artemis Steps and a performance by the Lucnica Folklore group from Slovakia at the Forum Theatre in Jerash.

The Jerash Festival, launched in 1980 on the initiative of Her Majesty Queen Noor to encourage intercultural exchange, is also a crucial event in Jordan's policy to promote domestic and international tourism.

Though the number of visitors definitely increased compared to last year, "attendance this year was a bit below our expectations," Programme Manager of the festival Lubna Far said.

According to Ms. Far, more colourful and energetic performances, especially in the promotional phase, will be called for in next year's 15th Jerash Festival, and the 1996 event is predicted to be even more "magnificent."

Two outstanding events marked some of the focal beats of this year's festival: a piano concert by Alberto Pomeranz at Mount Nebo last Wednesday evening, and the performance by the Eugene Ballet Company, from the U.S., at the Royal Cultural Centre, also last week.

In the evocative atmos-

phere of the courtyard outside the Memorial Church built in honour of Moses on Mount Nebo and overlooking one of the most spectacular views of the Jordan Valley and the Dead Sea, Mr. Pomeranz's interpretation of Beethoven, for which this Italian maestro is internationally celebrated, was highlighted by the intense colours of the sunset.

Besides Beethoven's "The Storm," the programme included works by Clementi and Mussorgsky.

As a pianist for the Orchestra da Camera in Rome, Mr. Pomeranz has performed in the international arena and has recorded a profuse number of works.

With the unique backdrop of Mount Nebo, an unusual site for an event of the Jerash Festival, the evening was organised to suit all the tastes of an audience's senses. The Pomeranz recital was followed by an Italian dinner under the stars.

The second remarkable event of the festival's last days was a performance by the American dance troupe, the Eugene Ballet Company, from the city of Eugene, Oregon, directed by Toni Pimble.

It was the only ballet included in the programme, but the enthusiastic participation of a large audience showed that a significant sector of the Jordanian public is familiar with and fond of this art.

The eight versatile dancers



Alberto Pomeranz

participating at the festival, (the company numbers a total of 20 dancers), performed a varied and challenging bill that provided non-connoisseurs with a precious opportunity to taste the trends of contemporary choreography.

The curtain-raising "Columba Aspetit," a 12th century piece of music, was followed by a sparkling and intriguing "Tango for Five" with music by Astor Piazzola, and the "Children of the Raven," a daring transposition of American Northwest traditional stories into the language of dance.

The choreography was directed by Toni Pimble, who has worked for the well-known New York City Ballet and the Atlanta Ballet.

Ms. Pimble's work — sustaining a purity in lines, a sobriety in figures, and shrewd quotation — was impeccable.

### TCC boosts telephone channels to 4,000

Amman (Petra) — Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) Director Walid Dweik Thursday said the TCC installed a new exchange to June, increasing to 4,000 up from 3,000 the number of channels in the country in order to meet increased pressure on the network during the summer. In an apparent reference to complaints about the national network's capacity to cope with high demand periods, particularly last July when the Tawjili results were announced, Mr. Dweik said the number of telephone calls traced by the

corporation's totalled about 500,000 in one hour in the Abdali area alone, a load, he said, which is beyond the technical capacity of the system. He said the corporation can monitor and control only 200,000 calls per hour. The extraordinary load, he said, occurs rarely on special occasions such as holidays and high school graduation time. Mr. Dweik said the TCC is working on providing 250,000 more telephone lines by the end of 1998, in addition to the necessary channels. He said a new network, will be completed by the end of August.

### Japan to grant Jordan \$8m to improve garbage treatment, disposal problems

Amman (Petra) — Japan will grant Jordan \$8 million to finance a project to improve garbage treatment and garbage dumping sites, according to a statement Friday by the Environment Department director of the Ministry of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment, Saleh Sharara. The project will utilise environment-friendly technology, Mr. Sharara added. Mr. Sharara said he was informed about the Japanese contribution Thursday during a meeting with the second secretary at the Japanese embassy here. He said his department approached the Japanese government officially a few years ago seeking support to improve the garbage disposal problem in Jordan. Tokyo sent an expert team to inspect the dumping sites in Jordan and assess what would be required to improve the situation. Mr. Sharara said the project will be conducted under the joint supervision of Japanese and Jordanian experts, and added that on-the-job-training for local cadres will also be provided.

## WHAT'S GOING ON

### JERASH FESTIVAL

\* Lucnica Folklore Group of Slovakia at the Forum at 7:30 p.m.

\* Concert by Kazem Al Sahir of Iraq at the South Theatre at 8:30 p.m.

\* Concert by the University of Jordan Group at the Sound and Light Theatre at 9:00 p.m.

\* Concert by St. Peter Freienstein of Austria at Artemis Steps at 9:00 p.m.

\* Children's play entitled "The Strange Visitor" at the Sound and Light Theatre at 7:45 p.m.

\* Recital of short stories by Caty Tu'meh at Gracia Theatre on Friday at 7:45 p.m.

\* Performance by several Jordanian groups at the Forum (6:30-7:45 p.m.)

\* Egyptian circus at the Forum at 9:30 p.m.

### LECTURE

\* Lecture (in Arabic) entitled "Russian Position in Bosnia — Fact and History" by Salam Musafar at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation, Jabal Amman at 6:30 p.m.

### EXHIBITIONS

\* "Exhibition of Chinese Products '95," at Al Bassam Hall, King Abdullah Gardens.

\* Handicrafts and souvenirs at the Amman Citadel (9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.)

23:59	Dep. Damascus	to Amman
00:25	Arr. Amman	from Damascus
01:00	Dep. Amman	to Damascus
04:35	Arr. Damascus	from Amman

## HIAZ RAILWAY

Dep. Amman	to Damascus	04:35
Dep. Damascus	to Amman	04:35
Arr. Amman	from Damascus	04:35

## MARKET PRICES

Upper Town prices in 1939

Apple	100
Banana	100
Banana (Mukammal)	100
Cabbage	100
Carrot	100
Cauliflower	100
Cucumber (large)	100
Cucumber (small)	100
Eggplant	100
Garlic	100
Grapes	100
Lemon	100
Melon (large)	100
Melon (small)	100
Mulukhia	100
Okra	100
Onion (dry)	100
Orange	100
Peach	100
Pepper (hot)	100
Pepper (sweet)	100
Potato	100
String Beans	100
Sweet Melon	100
Tomato	100



## More clashes reported in Chechenya but tension easing

GROZNY, Russia (R) — Three Russian soldiers were wounded in overnight attacks by Chechen rebels, but Russian officials said Friday tension was easing in the breakaway region after Sunday's military agreement.

Interfax News Agency quoted a Russian military official in the region capital Grozny as saying small rebel groups had attacked army posts at least 15 times during the night.

But he said the attacks, which followed a televised appeal by Russian President Boris Yeltsin for rebels to comply with the July 30 military deal, were less intense than before.

The official added that major fighting had ceased after Moscow and separatist rebels hammered out the agreement aimed at ending the seven-month conflict. "There have been no active military actions in the last 24 hours," he said.

Rebel military commanders say they are not involved in the latest attacks on Russian forces, which they blame on guerrillas outside their control.

Under the accord, the rebels agreed to lay down most of their arms in exchange for

withdrawal of most Russian troops from Chechenya.

Russia, which sent tens of thousands of troops last December into Chechenya to quell its three-year independence bid, has agreed to scale its forces down to two 1,000-strong brigades.

Mr. Yeltsin, back on the political stage after a mild heart attack last month, threw his weight behind the military deal in his speech Thursday night.

"At present it is necessary to organise the disarmament of all illegal formations... This will become the basis for the withdrawal of Russian troops who have fulfilled their duties," he said.

Mr. Yeltsin said peace would soon return to Chechenya. But he insisted the region would remain part of Russia.

Groups of separatist fighters who watched his television performance in Chechenya jeered throughout his speech.

Mr. Yeltsin also cautioned that there were forces inside and outside Chechenya who wanted the conflict to continue and stressed they must be curbed.

"The progress of further talks and processes of revival

of the Chechen Republic within the Russian Federation will largely depend on this," he said. Solutions had to be found based on the Russian constitution.

Mr. Yeltsin said the military deal was the first success of peace negotiations, which began in earnest after a Chechen rebel raid on the Russian town of Budennovsk in June.

Mr. Yeltsin said he would appoint a representative to Chechenya to push forward the peace process. He said the region should have its own political bodies and elect representatives to the Russian parliament.

The military accord did not cover the most difficult issue in peace talks — Chechenya's constitution status — and Mr. Yeltsin stance falls far short of rebel demands for independence.

Meanwhile a joint Russian Chechen team left Grozny Friday to look for missing Russian soldiers believed to be held by Chechen forces in the southeast mountains of the breakaway Caucasus republic.

The decision to send the search team came during a session of the Joint Military Commission set up under a

breakthrough agreement signed last month to end hostilities.

The team was headed by Vladimir Ivanov, a senior member of the Russian delegation at the military talks and Hussein Iskhanov, a senior Chechen field commander.

"We have information on all our people. There are about 300 missing in all," Mr. Ivanov told anxious Russian mothers of missing soldiers outside the mission of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe which is hosting the talks.

"This time we will not bring anyone back. We just want to make sure they are alive and find out where they are," he said.

The Russian military was ready to provide a helicopter and go anywhere to find them, he said as one of the mothers broke down in tears.

Mr. Iskhanov said he knew of three Russians held in the village of Makhkheti.

Both sides were to provide full lists of the missing by Aug. 7, he added. The Chechens estimated the number of their missing at 3,000 to 9,000. Mr. Iskhanov said, but names were still being added to the lists.

## Hurricane blasts Florida for 2nd time

PENSACOLA, Fla (AP) — Hurricane Erin thrashed Florida a second time, ambushing thousands of terrified residents and tourists and causing widespread damage before losing its punch over Alabama.

Erin was downgraded to a tropical depression Friday morning after its sustained winds dropped below 40 mph (64 kph), down from the 94 mph (150 kph) winds that blasted the Florida panhandle, knocking out windows, damaging water lines and tossing boats like baseballs.

"We have trees down, we have transformers exploding on power poles," said John Teelin, a spokesman for Escambia County Emergency Management. "It's quite a show."

No injuries or deaths were reported. Erin killed at least two people and left five missing at sea when it hit central Florida early Wednesday.

Erin was moving northwest Friday over Mississippi, heading toward eastern Arkansas.

The storm brought rain and high winds to parts of Georgia, Alabama and Mississippi, downing some trees and power lines but causing no major damage, official said. Flash flood watches and wind advisories were in effect Friday most of Mississippi.

On Thursday, the hurricane-force winds and driving rain peeled back roofs at shopping centres, restaurants and apartment buildings across several panhandle counties. Hundreds of trees toppled and power lines went down faster than utility crews could keep up.

Florida Gov. Lawton Chiles requested a federal emergency declaration from President Bill Clinton to pave the way for disaster aid. "We thank God that this storm did not pack the catastrophic punch that others have in the past," Mr. Clinton said in a statement promising federal help.

The Escambia County Sheriff's Department said 50 to 60 police cars would patrol the area overnight to guard against looting.

The centre of the storm moved ashore at about 10 a.m. in Pensacola, which had not been hit directly by a hurricane since one in September 1926 killed 372 people in Florida and Alabama.

State insurance officials projected insured losses as high as \$200 million.

State meteorologist Mike Rucker said many Florida coastal residents failed to take the hurricane warnings seriously and were caught by surprise.

Forecasters had predicted Wednesday night that the hurricane would most likely brush the Florida panhandle on its way to the Mississippi-Louisiana coast — not slam into it.

More than 10,000 people evacuated coastal areas near Pensacola, but Florida officials said only about 600 people had taken refuge overnight in shelters.

Mr. Teelin, of Escambia County Emergency Management, complained that county officials didn't have enough time to warn residents.

Officials at the National Hurricane Centre disputed that claim, saying a hurricane warning was posted for the Florida panhandle at 3 p.m. Wednesday.

Nonetheless, many residents felt ambushed. "Normally I would have loaded up and moved out, but they kept saying it was going to Louisiana," said 69-year-old Charles Clower.

Rusty Hilbert decided too late to move his wife, Fran, and five children, ages 16 months to 13, out of a motel in Fort Walton beach. His oldest children who wanted to see a hurricane were terrified and spent the next few hours jamming towels into the doors and windows to keep out the water.

"Most of their eyes are wide-eyed — not saying anything," said Mr. Hilbert, a sculptor from Abilene, Texas. "A waterspout or tornado went right over the hotel and that time they got a little serious about it."

Gulf Power Co. spokesman Steve Higgenbottom said 62 per cent of the Panhandle utility's customers — nearly a half million people — lost electricity Thursday. He said it could take a week to restore power to everyone.

## Murayama aims for new start with cabinet reshuffle

TOKYO (R) — Japanese Prime Minister Tomiichi Murayama Friday launched an attempt to revive his fragile coalition, agreeing to a cabinet shake-up and securing public works funding to stimulate the economy.

The embattled prime minister's efforts to recapture political momentum also included an unprecedented parliamentary protest against nuclear weapons testing by France and China.

Mr. Murayama has been under pressure to make a bold move to put his Socialist Party and 13-month-old government back on their feet after upper house elections last month that were seen as an unofficial vote of no-confidence.

On Friday, he agreed to a large-scale cabinet reshuffle, whose timing and extent were to be discussed at an emergency meeting that evening, according to one coalition leader.

Finance Minister Masayoshi Takemura, who heads the Sakigake Party, the smallest of the three coalition

partners, said both he and Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) leader Yoshiro Kono would stay in Mr. Murayama's cabinet.

However, Mr. Takemura did not say whether he and Mr. Kono would remain with their current portfolios, and added that he thought the reshuffle would likely be on a large scale.

"We were asked (by Mr. Murayama) to stay in the cabinet," Mr. Takemura said after a morning meeting of the three leaders.

He said he had replied that he would leave the decision to the prime minister, and that Mr. Kono, who is foreign minister, had acknowledged the request.

Also Friday, ministers approved a ceiling on the state budget for the next fiscal year, keeping overall spending tight while allowing growth in areas that will boost the economy.

The ceiling for general spending, the core of the state budget, for 1996/97 was kept down to 43.93 trillion yen (\$483 billion),

## Bomber blows off arm, injures 2 in south China

HONG KONG (R) — A 19-year-old man set off a home-made bomb just outside the main train station in the southern Chinese city of Guangzhou Friday, blowing off his arm and injuring two passers-by, a city official said.

Police and public security officials defused a second bomb before it could go off in the crowded square, some 50 metres from the main ticketing office, the official said by telephone from Guangzhou.

Two more crude bombs, each consisting of about 250 grams of explosive stuffed into a soft-drink can, were found in the man's luggage, the pro-Beijing New Evening Post newspaper in Hong Kong reported.

A middle-aged man and woman were injured in the blast, which occurred around 9:20 a.m. (0125 GMT) during the morning rush hour, the official said.

The bomber, identified only by his family name, Lan, came from Guangdong province and lived outside the Guangzhou City limits. Witnesses told police the youth ignited the bomb with a cigarette lighter.

## U.S. House gives states Choice on rape abortions

WASHINGTON (AP) — Sharply divided on an emotional issue, the House of Representatives voted the 50 states Thursday night may deny government funds for abortions to poor women who are victims of rape or incest.

The 215-206 vote was a fresh show of strength for the religious right in the Republican-controlled House. It came after an anguished debate in which several women lawmakers angrily denounced the restriction.

"This bill sends rape victims a very clear message — you must have your rapist's baby," said Rep. Nita Lowery, a New York Democrat. "It tells victims of incest, you must have your father's child."

Supporters said the issue was the rights of states — and of the unborn. "I'm certainly against violence against women," said Rep. Henry Hyde, an Illinois Republican. "I'm also against violence against unborn children."

What crime has the unborn child committed? "The vote came as lawmakers worked in marathon session to complete action on a bill that cuts \$9.3 billion from social program for the next fiscal year and recasts the government in a more conservative image."

Temper flared as debate wore on. "The gentleman is out of order," the presiding officer, Rep. Robert Walker, a Pennsylvania Republican, told Democratic Rep. George Miller of California, who spoke angrily in opposition to one proposal long after his allotted time had expired.

"This law is out of order," Mr. Miller retorted, and in the furor, Mr. Walker's gavel broke.

President Bill Clinton, who has threatened a veto, attacked the measure during the day, saying it cuts would deny 180,000 youngsters a place in pre-school programmes, and cut off student loans, worker training and federal education assistance to hundreds of thousands of recipients.

House Speaker Newt Gingrich met with several Republican lawmakers, part of a coordinated effort by the leadership to persuade moderates and conservatives to look beyond provisions they oppose and vote for passage to further the party's overriding goal of a balanced budget.

On other contentious issues as the day gave way to evening, the House: — Refused, on a 367-53 vote, to resurrect a \$1 billion programme for helping the poor pay their utility bills.

Approved, on a vote of 232-187, the provision that sparked Mr. Miller's anger: "It would restrict lobbying activities on the part of non-profit groups receiving federal grants. On a second provision backed by anti-abortion groups, the House agreed to protect federal funds for medical schools, even if they refuse to teach abortion techniques to their students."

That provision, coupled with the one on Medicaid funding for rape and incest, demonstrated anew the strength of anti-abortion forces in the House, under Republican control for the first time in 40 years.

On Wednesday, in a setback for the religious right, the House voted to maintain the government's main family planning programme. But Thursday's proposals focused squarely on abortion.

Rep. Ernest Istook, an Oklahoma Republican, noted that 36 states have voted to deny abortion aid in cases of rape or incest, despite an administration policy and court rulings to the contrary. "These decisions should properly be made by the states not by Washington," he said.

Critics of the proposal said that in 1994, Medicaid, the government-funded health insurance programme for the poor, paid for only two abortions in cases in which the woman had been victimised by rape or incest.

The anguish from the women lawmakers was bipartisan. "Rape and incest are about violence, they are about brutality. They leave lifelong scars, inability to love and trust," said Rep. Nancy Johnson, a Connecticut Republican. "Trust America's women, they will choose wisely."

The vote let stand a provision in the law that says states may not deny Medicaid funds for abortions in cases in which the life of the woman is threatened.

For his part, Mr. Clinton renewed his opposition to the measure during a White House ceremony. "From pre-schoolers to adults, this bill is a body blow to their future and a body blow to our efforts to create a high opportunity, high wage economy, not a hard work, low wage economy," said the president.

In all, the measure for the Departments of Labour, Health and Human Resources and Education provides for so-called discretionary funding \$60.7 billion for the fiscal year that begins Oct. 1, a cut of \$9.3 billion from this year's spending.

## Grant misses premiere to avoid bad publicity

LONDON (R) — British actor Hugh Grant missed the London premiere of his new film because he didn't want his appearance to generate "the wrong kind of publicity."

The handsome 34-year-old film star who made international headlines when Los Angeles Police caught him having sex in a car with a Hollywood prostitute flew to New York before the British opening of "The Englishman Who Went Up A Hill And Came Down A Mountain."

Grant donated \$10,000 (\$16,000) to the leukaemia charity to make up for his absence which an aide attributed to last-minute business arrangements. But the actor admitted there were other reasons. "If I had gone to the premiere, it might have totally wrecked the proceedings for reasons you must guess."

"And that's the last thing I wanted to do because it has come out very well," he said in an interview with the Guardian newspaper. "It certainly doesn't deserve the wrong kind of publicity and I'm afraid that at the moment I might have given it just that."

Sheep, goats commit mass suicide

BEIJING (R) — A herd of sheep and goats committed mass suicide in a lake in Inner Mongolia, refusing to return to shore despite frantic efforts by their Chinese shepherd to save them.

Xinhua News Agency said: It all began when the shepherd drove his flock to a lake to drink on July 17 and two goats with an apparent death wish jumped into the 1.5-metre deep water, prompting their fellows to follow.

Xinhua said. Only after a three-hour rescue aided by 20 herdsmen did the shepherd succeed in saving 281 sheep while the other 249 animals, including 206 goats, drowned, the official agency said. This was the first such case in China, Xinhua said, adding that sheep were unusually afraid of water. "An investigation revealed that when the sheep started sinking, they just kept spinning in the water and refused to swim to the shore, and even when some were pulled out of the water, they tried to go back in again," Xinhua said. A medical examination found the survivors in normal physical condition.

Pavarotti meets with prosecutors in massage centre probe

BERGAMO, Italy (AP) — Luciano Pavarotti tied a new role Wednesday: Witness in the case of a massage centre owner under investigation for fraud. Prosecutors in this northern city met with the tenor for a little less than an hour. He was one of a series of Italian celebrity clients of pierantonio Bettelli questioned by the authorities. Mr. Bettelli, a one-time nurse and well-known figure in Bergamo, ran the "City of Bergamo" physiotherapy centre. Prosecutors are investigating him on charges that he was operating without proper medical credentials and illegally dispensing prescription drugs. "I've never been to Bettelli's," Pavarotti told reporters after the session, the Italian News Agency (ANSA) said. "It was he who came to me when I needed massages."

The Rome daily La Repubblica reported that two clients also have alleged an X-rated film was shot at the centre, which was closed down a week ago.

Art student to sell Lennon cartoons

LONDON (R) — A former art student who swapped her yellow sweater for a sketchbook of John Lennon's drawings could receive up to £120,000 (\$192,400) when the book comes up for auction, Sotheby's said Friday.

Fashion designer Helen Anderson did the swap in her days at Liverpool Art College. Sotheby's say the book, being put up for sale on September 14, contains the largest number of his early cartoons to be offered for sale. Lennon, who was murdered in New York in 1980, was very blunt about himself, signing one self-portrait "simply a simple pimply short-sighted John wimple Lennon."

His best friend Pete Shotton is shown shaking a rattle while a British fellow student is dubbed "Psyche."

## India, Russia discuss cooperation

MOSCOW (AFP) — The Indian and Russian foreign ministers met here Friday for talks on international cooperation between the two countries currently working on several major weapons deals.

India's Foreign Minister Pranab Mukherjee met his Russian counterpart Andrei Kozyrev for talks aimed at further cementing economic and political ties between the two countries.

Mr. Mukherjee, who met with Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin on arrival late Thursday, was to discuss international issues, possibly including the war in Bosnia and the instability in the central Asian state of Tajikistan, the Indian embassy spokesman told AFP.

Arms sales, a major element of Indian-Russian relations, were not going to be discussed in detail, but "you might say in generalities," the spokesman said.

After his hour-long meeting with Mr. Chernomyrdin, Mr. Mukherjee said there had been a recommendation to boost economic cooperation and strengthen military and anti-terrorism ties, Russian news agencies said.

Trade between the two countries has grown by 44 per cent this year and is projected to total \$1.6 billion by the end of the year, the Indian embassy said.

Mr. Mukherjee will visit Saint Petersburg Saturday before leaving Russia the following day.

The driving force in relations between the two colossuses — Russia is geographically the biggest country in the world, India is the second most populated country — is a thriving arms trade that dates back from the Soviet era.

Eighty per cent of India's air force, 75 per cent of its navy and 40 per cent of its land forces is armed with Soviet, or Russian-made material, the respected Moscow daily Sevodnya reported Friday.

The relationship was given a major boost in December last year when Mr. Chernomyrdin visited India and signed a long-term military cooperation agreement.

In one of the latest deals, Russia delivered 10 MIG-29 warplanes as part of \$830 million credit agreed to in 1992.

Now, India is hoping to get a Russian licence to manufacture Sukhoi-30 jet bombers and there is a plan for Russian help to build a lightwater nuclear reactor.

Last month the Russian business daily Kommersant said Indian Defence Ministry officials were also considering the purchase of a Russian aircraft carrier, the cruiser Admiral Gorskov.

The technical and military supplies make Russia a significant factor in India's power struggle with its neighbour Pakistan.

There have been rumours that Moscow now plans to sell Pakistan war jets too.

## Pyongyang again warns Seoul over arrest of pro-unification activist's widow

SEOUL (AFP) — North Korea Friday issued a thinly veiled warning that it would refuse any dialogue overtures from South Korea unless it releases the arrested widow of a pro-unification activist.

"By arresting the presbyter, Park Yong-Gil, on the charge of visiting the North, they totally denied dialogue and deprived themselves of the right to talk about dialogue," Pyongyang said in a statement.

"If they prosecute Park Yong-Gil despite our warning, their act will have an irrevocable effect on North-South relations," the Committee for the Peaceful Reunification of the Fatherland said in the statement.

Upon crossing into the South Monday at Panmunjom, the only land crossing point on the fortified border,

the 76-year-old Mrs. Park was arrested for visiting the Communist North without approval in violation of the National Security Law.

She followed in the steps of her husband, Protestant pastor Moon Il-Hwan, who was jailed for the same offence in 1989.

Rev. Moon, who led pro-democracy struggles in the 1970s and 1980s and died in late 1993, became close to the deceased North Korean President Kim Il-Sung during his visit to Pyongyang.

During her month-long stay in Pyongyang, Mrs. Park received a hero's welcome and met with Kim Il-Sung's son and designated successor Kim Jong-Il.

Pyongyang said that the South, while calling for dialogue with the North, had "incriminated" the person

who visited the dialogue partner. "Their behaviour is self-contradictory and unacceptable to anybody," it said.

The arrest came as South Korean President Kim Young-Sam hinted in interviews that he was preparing to announce on Aug. 15 an initiative — possibly a summit proposal — in relation to North-South relations.

Inter-Korean ties had been warming after a U.S.-North Korea accord on freezing the North's controversial nuclear programme and the South's gift of 150,000 tonnes of free rice aid to the North.

It also came as the North repeated its annual call for a grand rally at Panmunjom to mark Aug. 15, the anniversary of the liberation of the Korean peninsula from Japanese colonial rule.

funds, and the newspaper report prompted opposition parties to demand an official probe.

Mr. Seo's aides said the minister was quoted out of context and he had just conveyed rumours circulating on the Seoul Bourse without conviction.

"Minister Seo said his remarks were completely distorted by the Chosun Ilbo," Kim Ho-Yung, Mr. Seo's secretary, told Reuters shortly before the resignation was accepted.

"Former President Roh has nothing to do with this (the report)," Mr. Roh's aide Park Young-Hoon told reporters Friday.

## S. Korea minister quits over remark

SEOUL (R) — South Korean President Kim Young-Sam accepted Friday the resignation of a cabinet minister who caused a political storm by referring to the alleged possession of an illicit fund by a former president.

"President Kim accepted the resignation of Government Administration Minister Seo Seok-Jai who offered to quit to take responsibility for his remarks," a spokesman for Prime Minister Lee Hong-Koo said.

The spokesman said Mr. Seo's successor would be named after Mr. Kim returns at the weekend from a holiday.

Quoting Mr. Seo, the na-

tion's leading daily Chosun Ilbo reported Thursday a former president was holding about 400 billion won (\$526.32 million) in bank accounts under false or borrowed names, which the government outlawed two years ago.

The daily also quoted Mr. Seo as saying an aide to the ex-president had secretly asked for "special treatment" from the government in converting the money into "real name" accounts.

The daily quoted Mr. Seo as saying the ex-president was either Chun Doo-Hwan or Roh Tae-Woo.

Both Mr. Roh and Mr. Chun denied possessing such

funds, and the newspaper report prompted opposition parties to demand an official probe.

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## Campaign treasurer: Colombian president approved drug cartel's election gift

BOGOTA, Colombia (AP) — Colombia's highest-reaching drug corruption scandal threatened to topple the president himself with explosive testimony that he approved a \$6.1 million contribution by the Cali drug cartel to his 1994 election campaign.

Senate Vice President Jose Gomez of the opposition Conservative Party called on President Ernesto Samper to step down, saying Conservative members of Mr. Samper's coalition government planned to resign within two weeks.

Mr. Samper didn't immediately react to the charges by Santiago Medina, Mr. Samper's campaign treasurer, which were published Thursday in the newspaper El Tiempo. The prosecutor general's office, which heard Mr. Medina testify, confirmed the transcript's authenticity.

Mr. Samper has denied any knowledge his campaign took drug money.

On Wednesday, Defence Minister Fernando Botero, who was Mr. Samper's campaign director, told the government amid accusations he brought Cali drug cartel funds into Mr. Samper's election campaign. Mr. Samper barely won the June 1994 election.

Mr. Botero is the son of the internationally acclaimed artist of the same name.

Mr. Medina, who was arrested last week, testified last Friday that on April 29, 1994, Mr. Botero summoned him to his office and told him the campaign needed to accept financial support offered by the Cali cartel, the world's main distributor of cocaine.

When Mr. Medina told Mr. Samper three days later about Mr. Botero's statement, Mr. Samper "told me very nervously that he wanted to be kept out of this and that I should coordinate it with Fernando Botero," according to Mr. Medina's testimony.

Mr. Botero, the subject of an investigation by prosecutors, has denied funneling drug money into the campaign. A congressional commission is preparing to investigate Mr. Samper, at the president's own request.

Mr. Samper's government is in turmoil. The communications minister is also under investigation, and the interior minister and secret police chief have been accused of a cover-up.

"The candidate Samper... values your help in his bid to become president," Mr. Medina said he told the lead-

ers of the Cali cartel in a secret meeting on May 4, 1994.

Mr. Medina said he met in a Cali penthouse with cartel leaders Miguel Rodriguez Orejuela, his brother Gilberto, Jose Santacruz Londono and Helmer Herrera.

Under orders from Mr. Botero, Mr. Medina said, he asked for 2 billion pesos (\$2.4 million) and told traffickers that Mr. Samper favoured a 1993 penal code that granted big sentence reductions to traffickers who surrendered.

Miguel Rodriguez offered "unconditional support" to Mr. Samper, Mr. Medina said. The Cali cartel gave \$1.2 million for the first round of elections in May and \$4.9 million for the June runoff, according to the testimony.

But after the election, relations turned sour.

Mr. Medina testified that Miguel Rodriguez called him repeatedly to ask for a meeting with Mr. Samper. Mr. Medina said he told the cartel leader that neither Mr. Samper nor Mr. Botero wanted to talk to him.

Gilberto Rodriguez also allegedly summoned Mr. Medina to a Bogota apartment in September to complain the government wasn't cooperating with the cartel leaders.

## Hiroshima











# Assessing Palestinian public opinion

By Wendy Levitt

**HOW ACCURATELY** can one assess support for the various political forces in the West Bank and Gaza? When speaking of the Islamist opposition, for example, both academics and journalists have seemed to pluck figures out of the air, with assurances that Hamas could count on grassroots support of 15 or 25 or 40 per cent of the population (or even in some cases 50 per cent in the Gaza Strip). The pundits' own political persuasions may have had a major bearing on the figures. But the fact that they could hazard such varied interpretations of the public mood is due to the fact that we have few reliable criteria for making an informed judgement. We don't actually know.

business of political rallies (spontaneous, planned or a mixture of both) began to assume a "pro" or "anti" settlement character, translated on the ground into a Fateh-Hamas contest.

None of these methods of counting heads could ever be more than the roughest of guides to popular sentiment, not least because of the volatility of the public mood in response to the political events. Alongside this, the particular characteristics of each election, poll or rally seemed to be taken into account.

Since Oslo, opinion testing has increased in quantity and sophistication. In particular, Nablus boasts a serious scientific establishment, the Centre for Palestinian Research and Studies (CPRS), directed by Khalil Shikaki, which publishes detailed monthly reports on Palestinian views on a range of topics.

If the trend of the last few years was to inflate the Islamists' influence, the CPRS (and other institutions) have come up with many conclusions. In its 16th opinion poll in March

1995, the CPRS found that 49.4 per cent of Gazans and West Bankers supported Fateh (with 56.5 per cent backing Arafat personally as head of the Palestine National Authority), as opposed to 12.4 per cent for Hamas and 2.1 per cent for Islamic Jihad. Thirteen per cent were undecided; at all the smaller PLO factions fared badly, the highest score — under four per cent — going to the PFLP.

A poll one month earlier by the Gaza Community Mental Health Programme gave Fateh 33.4 per cent and Hamas 19.3, with 4.1 per cent for Jihad — figures closer to the traditional assessment. But the CPRS' findings have consistently over the months shown high ratings for Fateh and low one for Islamists. Itself surprised by its findings, the centre doubled its March sample in Hebron, supposedly a stronghold of the Islamist opposition. But there, Fateh scored its highest figure in any CPRS poll to date.

Accounting for Arafat's popularity  
Dr. Shikaki attributes

the findings to a combination of factors since the start of the year up to March: no major blunders by the PNA, a decrease in settlement activity and a sense of optimism about prospects for elections and Israeli redeployment. The feel-good factor was deliberately fostered by the increasingly professional Palestinian radio station, while the local papers have remained quiescent since Mr. Arafat made it clear that he would brook no dissent.

Still, questions remain. How many people are likely to speak openly, given a traditional deference to authority — as well as an abundance of police of one sort or another in the areas of Palestinian self-rule (one for every 50 Gazans) and a continuing Israeli presence elsewhere? A senior CPRS researcher suggested that an extra five per cent should be added to Hamas' ratings on this count.

The need for such an adjustment was highlighted by the centre's poll published just before the student elections at Al Najah

University in June. The CPRS predicted a 42 per cent vote for Fateh and 33 per cent for a combined Islamic ticket. In the event each side won 39 seats, with the remaining three going to the Popular Front.

Other recent student elections have produced mixed results. At Bethlehem University, Fateh, running with the People's Party, won seven out of nine council seats. At Jerusalem University, a Hamas-Jihad coalition took all nine seats. At the former nationalist stronghold of Bir Zeit (where Fateh suffered a dramatic rout in November 1993 by an anti-Oslo alliance of the Islamists with the Popular and Democratic Fronts), Fateh campaigned vigorously, disassociating itself from the PNA, and won 21 council seats, against 18 for the Islamists (with the Popular Front in third place).

Although student elections are the most directly politicised of the various local elections in the West Bank and Gaza, there are nonetheless other factors at play: the organisation and intensity of the campaign,

the composition of coalitions, the charisma of candidates, and specific issues which do not relate to national politics. A question that also needs asking, however, is to what extent do students represent the rest of the population?

In other elections for professional and trade bodies, the specificity factor is even greater. Results cannot be ruled in or out as a blanket guide to feelings on the peace process and the political players. The circumstances of different elections reveal a rich tapestry of political and local concerns: not least, voting for the best man for the job, regardless of political orientation. If local elections are to be a guide to popular opinion, each has to be examined on a case-by-case basis.

**Courting the don't-knows**

Since the creation of the PNA, opinion polls have recorded a growing number of "don't know" (13 per cent in the CPRS poll in March 1995). This constituency is being wooed by a

spate of independent challengers seeking to establish new political groupings. Not less than nine political figures have set themselves up in opposition to Mr. Arafat in recent months.

The most impressive of these contenders is Haider Abdul Shafi, former head of the Red Crescent in Gaza while the delegation during the Madrid process. In its February poll, the Gaza Community Mental Health Programme asked people for their preference as leader of the PNA; Abd Al Shafi managed only third place (although this was before he formally threw his hat into the ring with the formation of his Movement for Building Democracy). Behind Ahmad Yassin of Hamas with 19.3 and Mr. Arafat with 34.4.

Mr. Arafat also faces opposition within his own Fateh movement which has not thus far been quantified. This is both on the outside (led by Farouk Kaddoumi and others) and on the inside, where Marwan Barghout, head of Fateh on the West Bank, is stridently critical of the

PNA leadership. However, Mr. Arafat's immediate concern is with the Islamic opposition. Only if Hamas takes part in the national elections will its numerical strength be established, although it has demonstrated its ability to mobilise the masses in opposition to the PNA.

Perhaps, the long awaited elections will unlock the key to a better understanding of Palestinian public opinion. But one constituency whose voice will not be heard is that of the diaspora outside. Disenchantment and a sense of betrayal at Mr. Arafat's Oslo deal with its slender rewards will go unrecorded. One unlikely outcome of the Palestinians' tragically fragmented history, and its impact on their attitude, is the prospect of Hamas preparing itself for power-sharing with the PNA while one-time Arafat loyalists, dispersed throughout the region and beyond, continue to wait for the return of Jaffa and Haifa.

Middle East International



Croat and Serb delegations to the Geneva talks... (AFP photo)

## Conflict threatens all-out war

(Continued from page 1)

by the Serb-dominated Yugoslav army — captured a third of Croatia's land, most of it in the boomerang-shaped Krajina region curving around the northern border of Bosnia.

An uneasy truce had held since January 1992. Last May, Croatian troops recaptured the most weakly defended chunk of Serb-held land in central Croatia in a two-day blitz. The Serbs rocketed Zagreb in retaliation, killing seven people and wounding almost 200.

Although Friday's attack threatened to reignite all-out war, there was no immediate sign that the remnants of Yugoslavia, dominated by Serbia, would enter the fray.

Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic, intent on ending U.N. sanctions, has turned from his early support of rebel Serb causes in Croatia and Bosnia to tout peace. Friday's attack increased speculation that Croatian President Franjo Tudjman had won a promise from Milosevic not to intervene.

Slobodan Jarevic, an adviser to the rebel Serbs in Croatia, acknowledged that his side does "not expect that Yugoslavia will enter the war to defend us."

The Croatian offensive struck along a wide stretch of the front line.

Col. Leslie said "jets bombed the town of Gracac, about 40 kilometres northwest of Knin, and the area around Gospić, about 80 kilometres north of Knin. There were reports Croatian troops were crossing the front line near Gospić."

Croatia also shelled Serb positions at Petrinja in the northern part of the Serb-held territory, and the rebels reported one civilian killed and two wounded. Serbs responded by shelling areas around the towns of Sisak and Karlovac, and claimed to have destroyed three Croat tanks.

**Zagreb hit**

Warning sirens sounded for a second time Friday in the Croatian capital Zagreb, less than one hour after a missile landed in the outskirts of the capital.

The alert sounded at 7:45 p.m. (17 GMT).

Croatian radio announced earlier that a missile had

## Intrigues, apathy block memorial plans at Czar's murder

By Dave Carpenter  
The Associated Press

YEKATERINBURG, Russia — Traffic roars past the spot where Russia's last Czar and his family met a grisly end nearly eight decades ago. Construction materials litter the largely vacant lot.

The sins of Russia's past and present are colliding in this Ural mountains city, where despite years of debate and fund raising there is no permanent memorial to one of history's most infamous killings.

Corruption, confusion and apathy — mirroring the nation's contemporary problems — all are to blame.

Even the purported chief executioner has a more impressive monument than the victims' meager one.

"It's a pity," said Alexei Katayev, a local history buff looking over the unkempt and nearly deserted site where Nicholas II, his wife Alexandra, their five children and four attendants were murdered in 1918.

"It should be properly marked and registered," he said. "People should remember what happened here."

A metal cross, a small memorial stone, a chipped sign appealing for donations and the abandoned framework of a tiny chapel stand on the plateau overlooking this industrial city of 1.3 million people. During the Communist era, it was named Sverdlovsk after the official who arranged the murders.

It was here on July 17, 1918, that a Bolshevik firing squad, on orders from Vladimir Lenin, shot the exiled royal family in the basement of a nobleman's house. The remains were dumped in an abandoned mine outside town.

The NGB ordered the building razed in 1977 because it feared the house would become a pilgrimage site.

A decade later, in the age of glasnost, services were finally allowed at the site, and authorities and the Russian Orthodox Church agreed that a full-scale memorial should be built.

Proposals were grandiose: a museum, a hotel, a seminary wall calendars even depicted a magnificent white marble Cathedral there.

The site was given in 1990 to the church, which had close ties to the Czars. A "substantial amount" of money reportedly was raised, but it vanished two years ago.

Prosecutors are investigating accusations that the chief fund-raiser, a policeman turned clergyman, spent the money on "drinks and debauches."

City and church leaders blame each other for the failure to erect a memorial.

"The city is all in favour of this project, but there just isn't enough money for it," said Maya Mikhailova, a city spokeswoman. "We believe the church bears more responsibility."

Bishop Nikon, the prelate of Yekaterinburg, declined to say how much the church has raised recently. The day he met with a reporter, a bulldozer was paving a long church driveway for a big celebration marking his 35th birthday.

"I have been feeling pressure from the many swindlers who want to get their hands on this money, but I have resisted," said the bishop, who conducts Saturday services at the site.

He said a small, temporary church would be erected within a year. "Believers and sponsors" should pay for a permanent church, he said.

Asked when that would happen, he said: "Maybe in 20 years, maybe in two years — according to God's will."

Like the memorial, the remains of the Czar's family have been in Limbo since they were unearthed in 1991.

American, British and Russian forensic scientists have positively identified them. But a special government commission has yet to issue a ruling that would clear the way for burial in St. Petersburg, the former imperial capital.

Public interest seems to have faded, but the Czar's fate still strikes some nerves in Yekaterinburg.

Carnations and lilacs lay near the memorial stone on a recent day.

In a wooded cemetery across town, vandals regularly strike the imposing tombstone of Pyotr Yermakov, the commissar who claimed to have pulled the trigger on the Czar.

The same one-word message always is left on the grave, in blood-red paint: "Killer."

## The tale of an escapee from Kashmiri militants

By Dilip Ganguly  
The Associated Press

WAKURA, India — A 19-year-old girl, her face covered by a black veil, looked around and suddenly stopped under a huge chinar tree. Nearly a dozen armed Indian soldiers looked on.

Parveta Akhtad slowly walked past them and about 100 village elders seated on the lawn of a school building. Then she stood in front of an Indian army general.

From beneath her long flowing black dress, she took out a sophisticated Japanese radio set and put it down next to assorted weapons — general purpose machine guns, AK-57 rifles, rocket and grenade launchers, pistols and ammunition.

No one applauded. But Major General Datta Dalaj Shekhar, the top Indian military officer at Wakura, a farming village of 10,000 people located 40 kilometres north of Srinagar, heaved a sigh of relief.

On Tuesday, 26 militants, including Ms. Akhtad who joined the separatist campaign when she was 14, laid down their arms.

The event — the fourth in the past one year — was organised by the Indian military which has been fighting a separatist campaign by Kashmiri militants since 1989. Most of a dozen rebel groups favour an independent Kashmir. India controls two-thirds of Kashmir and Pakistan the remaining one-third.

The popular support for the militants' campaign in Kashmir remains widespread. In the last one year, India has released several leaders of pro-separatist groups in a bid to win over their support and hold state legislative elections in Jammu-Kashmir state, the only Muslim majority state in a predominantly Hindu India.

Some of those who laid down the arms said they were disillusioned with the fighting. Some said mercenaries from Pakistan and Afghanistan have taken over the campaign from the Kashmiris.

India says it will not grant independence to Kashmir and has dispatched at least 200,000 troops to crush the campaign, which has taken 13,000 lives in the last five years. Under a new strategy, the Indian army is trying to woo the militants by promising no trial and rehabilitation of those who give up arms.

"When I was a kid, I wanted to become a teacher," Ms. Akhtad told the Associated Press after the arms laying ceremony was over. She is the youngest daughter of a bakery worker in Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu-Kashmir state. "Ours was a happy family with two other sisters and a brother. My father used to take us on picnics and we ate cookies to our heart's delight," she said.

When she was 14, she was approached by a woman from her neighbourhood who told her that all Kashmiri Muslims must fight the Indian troops.

It was February morning and snowing in Srinagar. Parveta left her home without telling anyone.

"I was taken to one of the training camps near Srinagar and was given a course in radio operation."

That was the beginning and she handled communications for a militant outfit. "Though it was tiring, I never felt sad," she said.

But some events upset her. "I realised our (fighters) were also killing innocent people. I also saw some of them extorting money and sometimes killing each other for money," she said.

"I also saw Afghan and Pakistani (fighters) taking over the militant outfits. It was then I decided that I must quit," Ms. Akhtad said.

She would not say how she contacted the Indian military.

"Tell me, can I now study to become a teacher," she asked.

## 'Iraq can play positive role'

(Continued from page 1)

Amman and will create sub-committees and work teams to handle specific issues.

The two sides expressed their backing to the Arab League's efforts to revive joint Arab action and end inter Arab differences and emphasised the need to bolster security and stability in the Gulf region.

On Iraq the two sides expressed keenness on safeguarding Iraq's sovereignty and territorial integrity and praised Baghdad for recognising the state of Kuwait and its international boundaries in accordance with U.N. Security Council Resolution 833 as a step in the right direction and the return of security and stability to the Gulf region.

Reviewing the Middle East peace process the two sides reaffirmed the need for a comprehensive settlement based on U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 and the return of all Arab lands occupied since 1967 in exchange for peace.

They stressed that without these conditions peace cannot be durable or comprehensive and no stability or security can be guaranteed in the region.

The two sides also expressed deep concern over the situation in Bosnia and condemned the Serb attacks on Bosnian Muslims.

And said he wanted to go to the United States "to prove the justice of his case," the minister added.

"The suspect agreed voluntarily to travel to the United States to defend himself in the case without having to go through the extradition formalities in line with the (Jordanian-American) extradition treaty..." Mr. Tell added.

Both governments ratified the extradition treaty last month.

**Nejem**

(Continued from page 1)

Jordan to study civil engineering in Wichita, Kansas. He was given a work permit in 1990.

They said the FBI had been tracking him since the bombing and had him under surveillance for at least six months up to his arrest.

Mr. Nejem appeared at a Amman court on Tuesday

## Arafat, Peres to review talks

(Continued from page 1)

troops away from Arab communities and security matters.

An Israeli official close to the talks said the only progress made was on the transfer by Israel of civilian powers to the Palestinians. He confirmed that problems remained in security arrangements and troop redeployment.

Israel and the PLO are trying to hammer out an agreement that would allow the Gaza-based Palestinian authorities to expand its control in the West Bank.

Under its 1993 peace accord with the PLO, Israel agreed to pull out its forces from West Bank Palestinian population centres, hand over control to the Palestinian authority and allow the nearly two million Arabs to elect a governing council.

But Israel's concern over security for more than 100,000 Jewish settlers has delayed expansion of Palestinian self-rule.

**Syria says**

(Continued from page 1)

"Syria which has demanded the total return of the Golan... will never accept an Israeli presence on its territory," Damascus Radio said.

It called on Israel to withdraw its demand "to clear the way for arrangements which will ensure the security of all parties."

Israel's channel two TV reported Wednesday that Mr. Rabin has rejected U.S. requests to renew the ambassadorial talks immediately, "at the expense" of what he considers the more substantial military talks.

Mr. Rabin spokeswoman Aliza Goren confirmed that the premier had instructed Israel's Washington embassy not to commit to any talks with the Syrians until a date was set for military talks.



## Sudan abolishes tax on wheat imports

A recent study by the planning ministry predicted the population would grow to 2.4 million by the end of 1995, and GDP to 137 billion dirhams (\$37.3 billion). Oil exports would also rise to 2.2 million b/d.

Around two thirds of the UAE's population are non-Arab Asians and other foreigners, who began to stream in after the discovery of oil in the early 1960s.

requirement, despite the ever-increasing areas of land allocated by the government to growing wheat.

Commerce Minister Taj Al Sir Mustafa said the government, already short of cash and fighting a 12-year civil war in the south, had to import over 200,000 tonnes.

Mr. Mustafa said this year the government was ready to pay a minimum price of 140,000 Sudanese pounds (\$245) per tonne for all locally produced wheat.

The paper also quoted Industry Minister Badr Al Din Suleiman as saying Sudan aimed to import 25,000 tonnes of wheat a month between November 1995 and May 1996.

surplus, which would also help the dollar firm. But the question is how much are people actually willing to invest," said Kazuo Imai, a manager at Hokkaido Takushoku Bank.

A key test of Japanese investors' appetite for foreign assets comes next week, when \$42.5 billion worth of U.S. treasury bonds will be auctioned in a quarterly refunding.

Meanwhile, the dollar climbed to 91 yen and in quiet Friday trading.

The dollar moved half a yen higher in early European business on overnight investment-fund buying.

want to implement after the end of sanctions, such as railways," Mr. Jungen told AFP.

"We have reached the conclusion that German companies can implement humanitarian projects in Iraq now," he said. "However, we have to ask for the permission of the U.N. sanctions committee."

The German fact-finding mission followed similar trade delegation visits from Britain, France, Italy and Spain.

The German foreign ministry and federal economic ministry were joined on the trip, said Mr. Jungen, who is a member of the board of directors of the Hamburg-based NUMOV.

Before sanctions were imposed after Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990, German

micals have seen a 40 per cent reduction in their import duties this year.

Turkey is expected to abolish the remaining 60 per cent by the end of the year when the European Parliament is to decide on Turkey's bid to join the customs union.

**JUMBLE**

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

R I F E A

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# HOROSCOPE

**FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, AUGUST 5, 1995**

*By Thomas S. Pierson  
Astrologer, Carroll Wright  
Foundation*

**ARIES:** (March 21 to April 19) Be careful not to get into any disagreements with others or you could get into serious trouble. Be wise.

**TAURUS:** (April 20 to May 20) Use tact, not force with others if you want them to join you in some activity whether of a creative or entertaining nature.

**GEMINI:** (May 21 to June 21) You have so many duties you hardly know where to begin, but plan to do them intelligently and they are soon behind you.

**MOON CHILDREN:** (June 22 to July 21) Some friend may try to force you to see things his or her way today, but you do not approve, so resist.

**LEO:** (July 22 to August 21) Get busy at personal affairs that need completing and avoid outside matters which could get you into trouble.

**VIRGO:** (August 22 to September 22) Don't run away from duties ahead of you but patiently handle them efficiently and avoid trouble which could occur.

**Puzzle solved:**

P	O	G	R	O	N	H	U	S	T	L	E	R
A	R	R	I	V	E	X	O	N	L	E	A	V
T	R	A	V	E	L	S	P	A	R	R	I	N
R	E	F	E	R	S	P	A	T	C	L	A	Y
O	R	T	S	P	A	C	E	H	E	M	P	
L	Y	E	S	T	A	K	E		Y	E	S	
D	J	I	L	S	T	A	T	E	T			
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C	R	E	S	T	S	C	R	O	A	R	S	E
H	I	P				C	R	O	S	T		N
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*THE WORLD'S GREATEST HUSBAND GAVE ME A 2-HOUR BACK RUB!*

"Wouldn't you be proud to see this sign on our front lawn?"

## Peanuts

SOME OF THE GUYS OVER  
AT THE PLAYGROUND WERE  
DISCUSSING CRABBY SISTERS

GUESS WHAT..  
I WON !

THEY ALL AGREED THAT  
I HAVE THE CRABBIEST  
SISTER IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

I'M A  
CELEBRITY !

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## Andy Capp

I DECIDED TO COME BACK TO YOU, PET

I SUPPOSE YOU AREN'T SOMETHING, EH?

NOT A THING

SEEMS LIKE THE WORST THINGS IN LIFE ARE FREE, TOO, RUDE

## Mutt'n Jeff

YOUR HONOR, THESE TWO GUYS WENT INTO THE RIVER IN THEIR CAR!

BUT WE STARTED TO CROSS THE BRIDGE--

BRIDGE? WE DON'T HAVE A BRIDGE IN THIS TOWN!

WELL, THEN DON'T YOU THINK IT'S ABOUT TIME YOU BUILT ONE BEFORE SOMEBODY GETS DROWNED?

YES, DOC, SEND THE WAGON OVER-- THIS IS A REAL BAD CASE--

AL SMITH

**Birthstone of August: Peridot — Golden Quartz**







# Princess Sarvath meets women's basketball team, stresses need to take part in international events

Players proud to have represented Jordan, eye advanced standing in 1997

By Aileen Bannayan

Jordan Times Staff Reporter  
AMMAN — Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath Al Hassan Thursday met with members of Jordan's women's national basketball team who recently returned home after taking part in the 16th Asian Basketball Championship for women held in the Japanese city of Shizuoka between July 24 and 30.

Players and officials of the team expressed their heartfelt appreciation and thanks to Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath as they were the ones who made their trip come through at the last moment by donating JD 5,000 to cover travel expenses when the team's fund-raising effort fell short of its target.

Princess Sarvath inquired the players about their impressions at the Asian championship and stressed the need for participation in such international events.

"Only by such participation can we upgrade our standard as more experienced teams. Set your sights on the upcoming championship and I am sure you will do much better each time," the Princess told the players.

Jordan Basketball Federation (JBF) Chairman Awwad Haddad said participation in all upcoming Asian tournaments was a must for all age-groups and teams and said all efforts would be exerted to this end.

Asked about the team's preparations and any problems they faced during training, the coach and players said the availability of practice courts was the major problem.

"During the five months when the team was regrouped we only had four practices on official courts (the Baccalaureate and the Sports Palace)," coach Fadi Sabbah explained.

The players added that there was a wide difference between the JBF court and the indoor courts at schools where they practised and the courts they played on at the Asian championship.

Princess Sarvath said the Baccalaureate School court — which is the closest to international specifications — could be utilised for the team's practice from now on.

Taking part in the competition for the first time, the Kingdom's team finished fifth in Level B which also included teams from Hong Kong, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia and the Philippines. Level A included China, Korea, Japan, Taiwan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. China won the Level A title, while Thailand won the Level B trophy.

Taking into consideration that the Kingdom's players were participating in their first ever tournament since being regrouped after a 12-year absence, the team ended their participation on a high note after coming from



Her Royal Highness Princess Sarvath Al Hassan meets with the JBF president and members of the Kingdom's women's basketball team (Petra photo)



The Kingdom's team celebrates after defeating Indonesia 58-55, to finish fifth in Level B.

28-20 down in the first half to upset Indonesia 58-55 on the final day. A surprise announcement awaited the Kingdom's players and officials at the closing ceremony when the team's top scorer, Jumana Salti, was chosen among the top five Asian players in Level B.

Salti was Jordan's top scorer and rebounder in Jordan's team averaging 16.3 points and 12 rebounds per game.

"I was stunned," Salti told the Jordan Times. "Although I was happy and proud of my achievement I know I still have a long way to go and that I could do better."

"Our team can do much better next time. I believe we can undoubtedly be among the top three," she added.

Players and team officials all conclude that had it not been for the circumstances surrounding the team's preparations and travel arrangements, results could have been quite different.

Besides the fact that the team only had four practice matches against Syrian champions Al Jalal, the

team had to come up with nearly half of the JD 12,000 travel cost by collecting donations from understanding individuals and institutions.

Furthermore, since travel arrangements came through on the last day, the team had to stay in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia for two days and thus missed the opening ceremony and reached Shizuoka only nine hours before their first match.

They lost their first match 79-41 to the Philippines as the team lost the efforts of one of the team's usual top scorers Suhair Maqusi who was injured during warm-up. On the second day, jet lag and exhaustion were still persistent as Jordan lost 82-38 to Malaysia and the team had another setback when midway through the first half, another of the team's key players, Jehane Abdelnour, sprained her ankle and the injury hampered her usual scoring and manoeuvrability throughout the competition.

In the match attended by Jordanian embassy officials who came from Tokyo, the

Kingdom's team came quite close to beating Level B runners up Hong Kong, winning the second half 29-27 but losing the match 65-45 on the score difference Hong Kong had in the first half.

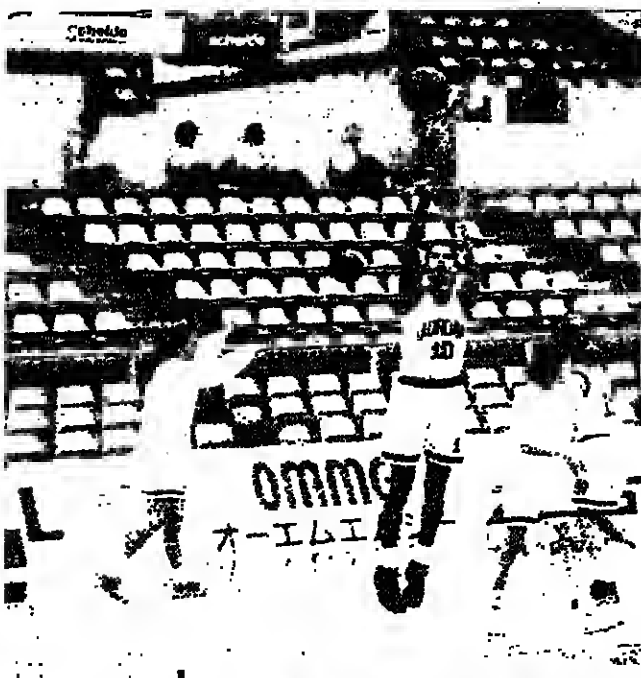
Jordan's team was probably the only consistent team in Level B as they improved from one match to another. In their fourth game they gave eventual winners Thailand a hard time before experience made the difference and Jordan lost 71-42.

The only Arab team in the 12-nation competition, Jordan's team was warmly welcomed by Asian basketball officials who stressed the need for Jordan's continued participation.

"This was our first time in such a competition. Next time we know exactly what to expect," explained Suhair Maqusi. "Because of my injury, I had a chance to watch the matches closely. The other teams are very well prepared and I think we benefited a lot. I cannot wait to go back to practice."

Team mate Tala Al

Muhsen summed up the



Jordan's top scorer Jumana Salti goes for the basket. Salti was chosen among the top 5 players in Level B.

Mauge agreed: "We faced teams we did not know anything about. They were prepared for everything. They mastered their homework." Jehane Abdelnour added: "We could have done better. Still it was a great experience."

Hind Al Gbouri, who was among the top three rebounders of the team, said: "This was just a stepping stone for us. It was a great chance to participate in such a championship, and I think we can do very well in the future."

Andeira Kasieieb and Rania Dajani stressed the importance of Jordan's taking part in such a competition. "We undoubtedly benefited a lot. We were the centre of attraction being the only Arab team and the one travelling from the farthest distance. It was an unbelievable feeling."

Team mate Hala Muhsen summed up the

team's morale upon participating in this Asian gathering. "Seeing the Jordanian flag among all those of the Asian nations was great. I felt proud to be there and represent my country. I am more determined now to practise harder and hopefully score a very good result in the 1997 championship."

Head of Jordan's delegation to Japan Muna Janho said the important thing was "to continue what we started and take part in all upcoming championships. Coach Fadi Sabbah also agreed adding "it was important that we started somewhere. We know where we stand in Asian basketball, and we hope all those who did not think we could actually regroup the team and take part will now believe that the JBF and its women's basketball committee is serious and determined to 'have a team'."



Jordan's team captain Rana Hussein is dwarfed by 204 centimetre tall Chinese giant Zheng Haixia who was chosen the tournament's Most Valuable Player.

## Sanchez Vicario falls to Witmeyer

CARLSBAD (Agencies) — Top seed Arantxa Sanchez Vicario, slowed by a hamstring injury, fell to hard-hitting American Marianne Werdel Witmeyer 6-3, 2-6, 6-2 Thursday to reach the quarterfinals of the \$430,000 Toshiba Tennis Classic.

"I did exactly what I wanted to do," said the 11th-seeded Werdel Witmeyer, who also banged out a win over Sanchez in their meeting last March at the Lipton Championships.

"I wanted to be aggressive, try to keep my errors down as much as I could, and force her to be more aggressive."

After winning the opening game of the second set, Sanchez called for WTA trainer Cathy Ortega on the changeover and was treated for a pulled right hamstring, which was wrapped in a bandage before she returned to the court.

"It was painful, especially when I went to my forehand," said Sanchez. "I can feel it getting worse and I tried not to think about it. But there's nothing you can do. If you don't get fast to the ball against a player who hits so hard, you know you have to run to the next shot. It's impossible."

Others gaining quarterfinal berths included ninth seed Lisa Raymond, who beat fellow-American Lindsay Lee 6-4, 6-2; Australian Rachel McQuillan, a 6-4, 7-6 (7-5) winner over American Sandra Cacic, and 16th-seeded Gigi Fernandez, who beat Christina Singer of Germany 6-3, 6-1.

Werdel Witmeyer set the pace from the start, displaying punishing groundstrokes which kept world number two Sanchez scurrying around the hard court of La Costa Hotel and Spa for much of the one-hour 46-minute match.

"I knew if I could force her to be more aggressive than what she's comfortable with she might make some errors, and she did. You always have the advantage if you can make the other player change their game."

The American used two early breaks to jump to a 5-1 lead on the way to claiming the first set.

Despite the injury, the Spaniard fought back and levelled the match by winning the final four games of the second set, helped by a rash of mistakes from Werdel Witmeyer.

"When the second set was over, I was almost glad that I got to start fresh in the third set," said Werdel Witmeyer.

Werdel Witmeyer again began finding the mark with her explosive groundstrokes for a 5-1 advantage in the decisive set before serving out the victory.

Sanchez, 23, would not blame the defeat on her injury. "It was bothering me a little but I think she played very good," said Sanchez.

Werdel Witmeyer said Sanchez could never be counted on. "She was limping one point and then running down balls the bionic woman would only get the next point," the winner said.

## KODAK UNVEILS NEW GENERATION OF GOLD FILM IN JORDAN

at a dealers conference held in Amman, Kodak (Near East) Inc. and Kodak Distributor Allied Trade and Supply Co. announced the launch of the new generation of Kodak Gold films in Jordan. Built on the same new colour technology used in the 'European Colour Print Film of the year 1994-1995' award winning Gold 400 film, the new range offers reduced processing sensitivity with similar printing characteristics.

"This means consistent film performance at the photo-finisher/minilab and outstanding results. The new generation enables photo-finishers to deliver excellent quality from the entire Gold range. In short, better pictures for every kind of photography," said Mr. V. Zeltunzian, of Kodak (Near East) Inc. who is currently visiting Amman to launch the new films.

The new family is a quantum leap in colour negative technology featuring Triple Coated Magenta which allows precise control of imaging. The first layer achieves grain control, the mid layer improves colour reproduction and the slow layer provides a wide process latitude.

"We are committed to marketing and supporting Kodak brand in the Kingdom. The Gold film launch is one of a series of activities designed to gain a substantial share for Kodak picture taking/picture making activities," commented Mr. Shaheen, Allied Trade and Supply General Manager.

## JOB OPPORTUNITY

A British Research Institute based in Amman seeks a **PUBLIC RELATIONS ASSISTANT** for short-term employment starting in September 1995

Applicants must be:  
• Fluent in written and spoken Arabic/English  
• Computer literate with experience of desk-top publishing and ACCESS data-base  
• Qualified in design and/or marketing

Only qualified applicants should send their CV in English with two references to the following address, not later than 16/8/1995.

**BIAAH**  
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## The Book "The Moon Watch"

Last June, the American space shuttle Atlantis had a rendezvous with the Russian space station MIR 20 years after the historic Apollo-Soyuz link-up. Also in June, the American world premiere of the film "Apollo 13" took place. Starring Tom Hanks, recounting the epic journey of that fateful mission in 1970.

These two significant 1995 space events have a common denominator: the Omega Speedmaster Professional chronograph wristwatch, flight-qualified by NASA in 1965 for all manned space missions.

To conclude the 25th anniversary of Neil Armstrong's first steps on the Moon mankind's greatest adventure — and to prepare the celebration of these events, Omega has published a book telling when, how and why the one and only watch ever worn on the Moon was conceived, flight-qualified by NASA, participated in all its space missions (plus all Russian missions since 1975), received NASA's "Snoopy Award" and has generated a dynasty of world renowned Omega Speedmaster chronographs.

## Real Madrid reel under financial crisis

MADRID (R) — Mounting debts, a boardroom rebellion and the threat of drastic sanctions from the Spanish League have flung mighty Real Madrid into the worst financial crisis of their 93-year history.

The biggest name in European club football has debts estimated at between \$10.4 and \$16 million, dating from the 1993 rebuilding of the Santiago Bernabeu Stadium.

The club's board met last week to agree a rescue plan, but three hours of heated

debate ended in failure. Seven top financial directors stormed out, frustrated at the club's apparent reluctance to put its financial house in order.

Four days later the depleted board presented Real's 1994/95 accounts to the Spanish Football League (LFP) amid feverish media speculation that the club could no longer honour its debt.

Spanish sports newspapers suggested the league might hand the champions an unthinkable punishment — te-

legation to the third division. That fear evaporated on Tuesday when a meeting of the LFP finance committee relegated Sevilla and Celta but spared Real.

Real's embattled board, on the initiative of vice-president Lorenzo Sanz, had stumped up the cash to cover five per cent of next season's budget, as the LFP requires. Disaster was averted.

Nevertheless, the crisis, which Real Madrid president Ramon Mendoza describes as the worst he has ever faced, has posed searching ques-

tions about the way the club is run. With cruel irony, the club's fortunes have hit rock bottom just when their team is scaling new heights.

Real swept the Spanish League last season after four years playing second fiddle to Barcelona, and now they want the European Cup, the trophy they made their own in the 1950s when they won it five times in a row.

But that was then and this is now, say the seven rebel directors who resigned last Thursday. Real Madrid has

to move with the times and compete in the hard-headed financial world of the 1990s. The rebel directors, led by vice-president Juan Miguel Villar Mir, said they would guarantee Real Madrid's debt, but only if the club approved a stringent restructuring plan.

They said Real, winners of the Spanish League a record 26 times, must sell their recently built commercial centre and sack some management.

Madrid built the shopping centre, "The Bernabeu Cor-

ner," in 1993 when they renovated the daunting stadium and increased capacity to 107,000 from 90,000.

But rebuilding ran substantially over budget and the club suffered a \$1.2 million deficit on the year. Villar Mir and his supporters say a wholesale shake-up is now imperative.

"This is a project which, in my humble opinion, Real Madrid urgently needs," he said after Thursday's stormy meeting. "I want the club to pull itself out of economic mire but that will need huge financial restructuring."

<p><b>CINEMA TEL:634144</b></p> <p><b>PHILADELPHIA</b></p> <p>presents</p> <p><b>Jurassic Park</b></p> <p>Directed by Steven Spielberg</p> <p>Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p><b>CINEMA TEL:699238</b></p> <p><b>PLAZA</b></p> <p>Kamal Shinnawi &amp; Ilham Shahin in</p> <p><b>Easy to Get</b></p> <p>(Arabic)</p> <p>Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 5:00, 8:30, 10:30</p>	<p><b>CINEMA TEL:677420</b></p> <p><b>CONCORD</b></p> <p>CONCORD "1"</p> <p>Ahmad Zaki, Layla Alwy and Mahmoud Hamedeh</p> <p>The Thierd Man (Arabic)</p> <p>Shows: 12:30, 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30</p> <p>CONCORD "2"</p> <p>Only you</p> <p>Shows: 3:30, 5:30</p>	<p><b>AMMOON THEATRE TEL:618274 - 618275</b></p> <p>MUSA HIJAZIN "sumaa" IN</p> <p>Hi Citizen</p> <p>daily at 8:30 pm</p> <p>written &amp; directed by Mohammed Shawaqfeh</p>	<p><b>Nabil Al Mashini Theatre TEL:675571</b></p> <p>Presents</p> <p><b>KABARET</b></p> <p>Abeer Issa Ghassan Mashini with Amer khamash, Khalil Jahmani, Mohammad Hussein and Issam Al Hanbali</p> <p>The theatre closes on Monday</p> <p>Performances start at 8:30 p.m.</p>	<p><b>Nabil &amp; Hisham's Tel:625155</b></p> <p><b>AHLAN THEATRE</b></p> <p>presents</p> <p><b>(Ahlan Tatbee)</b></p> <p>Welcome</p> <p>Normalisation</p> <p>Shows start at 8:30 p.m.</p> <p>For reservation please call tel. 625155 Amman</p>
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# Sports

## Evans loses, this time with a smile

PASADENA (AP) — This time, Janet Evans climbed out of the pool with a smile. She was beaten by Brooke Bennett for the second time in four days, but pushed her 15-year-old rival to the limit before getting nipped in the 400-metre freestyle Thursday night in the Phillips 66 National Championships.

Mel Stewart and Crissy Ahmann-Leighton, 1992 Olympians who dominated the 100 butterfly for years, lost their races. Evans made her move coming off the final turn before Bennett spurred ahead in the final 5 metres to win in 4 minutes, 10.72 seconds.

Evans, the world record-holder, swam 4:10.75. Trina Jackson of Jacksonville, Florida, led the first 200 metres, with Bennett second and Evans third.

"I really didn't see I was behind. I didn't freak out," Evans said. "I'm so used to controlling a race, if I'm not out in front, I get scared."

With two laps to go, Bennett took over first, Evans was second and Jackson slipped to third.

Evans, 23, qualified fifth and Bennett third among eight swimmers in morning preliminaries.

"At least I know I had a good race in me," Evans said.

Evans was in tears Monday night after losing the 800 free for the first time since 1987.

Stewart ended up outside in lane eight after qualifying last in morning preliminaries. He and Bill Weaver swam the first 35 metres under water about a foot from the bottom of the pool before surfacing approaching the turn.

Stewart lost the 200 fly Tuesday night, which broke his streak of 12 straight national titles in the event.

"I feel a little better after tonight's swim," Stewart said. "I was feeling sorry for myself and I decided to go out and fight."

Sahir Mohammad of Atlanta finished second in 54.07 to become the first black swimmer on the U.S. team for the Pan Pacific championships, which begin Thursday in Atlanta.

Ahmann-Leighton, making a comeback after winning an Olympic silver medal in '92 in the 100 fly, failed to qualify for the Pan Pacific. She finished fourth in 1:00.57.

The preliminary field posted the fastest times outside the '92 Olympic trials in the last five years, with five swimmers hitting the one-minute mark. Just eight American women have broken the minute barrier.

The speed suited Jenny Thompson, whose winning time of 1:00.19 tied the second-fastest time in the world this year.

Richelle Depoled of Scotia, New York, was second and '92 Olympian Angel Martino was third.

Bennett became the first woman to win two events this week. She swam between Jackson and Evans, tracking their progress as she breathed on each side.

Evans is having her tonsils out next week, putting her in doubt for the Pan Pacific meet. Her doctor has advised immediate surgery, but Evans may choose to swim in the year's biggest meet. She needed a top-three finish in the 400 or the 1,500 free to make the U.S. team.

Amanda Beard, 13, of Irvine, California, won the 100 breaststroke in 1:10.37. The men's winner was Kurt Grote of San Diego in 1:01.91.

John Piersma of Huntsville, Alabama, swam the fastest time in the world this year in winning the men's 400 free in 3:49.72.

Lea Loveless of Crestwood, New York, a '92 Olympian and American record-holder making a comeback, won the 100 backstroke in 1:02.44, two-tenths of a second ahead of B.J. Bedford of Etna, New Hampshire.

World record-holder Jeff Rouse of Fredericksburg, Virginia, won the men's 100 back title in 55.29 seconds.

Henderson swam a leg of the winning men's 800 free relay, Jon Olsen, Henderson, Tom Dolan and Joe Hudepohl were first in 7:25.89.

In the women's relay, Thompson anchored the winning team of Jane Skillman, Angie Wester-King and Amy Oberhelman, who finished in 8:15.70.

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## World Athletics Championships

## Why Christie's bruising for a fight

GOTHENBURG, Sweden. He's just an empty vessel making a lot of noise". But the real slaps in the face have come on the track at the major championships, Christie also retaining his European and Commonwealth titles last year for good measure.

Canadian Bruny Surin admits Christie's antics used to unsettle him. "When I started, it used to get to me. He stares and doesn't talk to anybody, whilst others chat to get relaxed."

But the double world indoor sprint champion then adds pertinently: "But it doesn't bother me now — I do the same and focus on myself."

And there's the rub. Christie and his 23 international title are suddenly not bothering his rivals.

Lewis and Burrell may be past saving, locked into an inferiority complex they cannot admit to, but Surin and Donovan Bailey, Mike Marsh, Dennis Mitchell and Davidson Ezinwa and co have got used to him.

They've even had the cheek to bear him this season. All of which leaves the greatest sprinter Britain has ever boasted with a problem — what to get angry about?

He can't get in a froth about being called old. He's done that already ("They say I'm old. Yes, I'm old, but not cold"), and anyway, he rather likes the title of oldest-ever Olympic and world 100m champion.

What he doesn't like is being reminded of his Seoul Olympics drugs scare, where he was cleared after drinking ginseng tea. But he has seen off that question enough times not to let it rattle him now.

Burrell and Lewis are not competing against him here, so the American angle is out — especially as Mitchell has picked up the annoying habit of being nice about him.

And another row with the IAAF — who Christie upset by failing to turn up at the World Indoor Championships this year — or the British Athletics Federation — who he clashed with over appearance money — would seem just too convoluted.

But the media might just provide the answer, that same media which provoked him to predict his retirement at the end of the season and prompted unseemly, barefisted threats at Heathrow airport a few weeks ago.

Christie, who has consistently accused the British press of failing to respect him, will face questions in the next few days about reports that he has become a high-speed grandfather. His son, they say, the result of a teenage romance, has just had his first child at the age of 16.

Christie — once accused by a teammate of being a perfectly balanced athlete — because he has a chip on both his shoulders — will not welcome the personal intrusion.

After all, he just wants respect. So bank on him to get angry. Bank on him to get furious. Bank on him to win world championship gold.

Athletics briefs Bailey likes it hot Donovan Bailey, the world's fastest man over 100m this year, wants the hot and sticky weather here to last until this weekend's sprint contest. "Hot, hot," quipped the Jamaican-born sprinter. "I train in Baton Rouge where there's 40 degrees and its steaming and humid. I love weather like this — the hotter the better."

Athletics goes Internet Athletics fans and computer freaks will be able to dial in to the sporting action of the World Championships, which get underway on Saturday.

## China's medal tally seen down

BEIJING (R) — With super-coach Ma Junren and his estranged record-holding distance runners out of the running, China's medal tally at the coming world Athletics Championships in Sweden is expected to slip compared with last time.

"Our performance this time will not be as good as the last championships," an official of the track and field association said in a telephone interview on Thursday.

"Last time, we had several good long distance runners who won medals," he said.

China's best bets for a medal at the coming championships in Gothenburg, Sweden, August 4-13 include world women's shotput champion Huang Zhihong and world cup women's 10-km walk gold medalist Gao Hongmiao, Xinhua news agency said.

Li Zewen, winner of the world cup men's 20-km walk, and Zhao Yongsheng, world cup men's 50-km walk champion, were expected to walk off with golds at the world championships, Xinhua said.

China finished second in the medal standings, behind the United States, with four golds, two silvers and two bronzes in the previous World Championships in Stuttgart, Germany in 1993.

"The disintegration of (the) 'Ma (Family) Army' has cast a shadow on China's expectations to win medals in the Olympic Games in Atlanta next year," the China Daily said, referring to Ma Junren's former team.

Many of Ma's estranged runners, including Wang Junxia, world 10,000 metres record holder, crashed out of competition before the Gothenburg championships after dismal performances at home.

Ma himself is not taking part because he is left with few runners after his once-formidable record-holding women distance runners, dubbed the "Ma Family Army," disbanded, with Wang leading the breakaway.

Wang, who broke her tough coach amid acrimonious squabbles last year, performed poorly at the national trials in Taiyuan, Northern Shanxi Province, in May.

Wang accused Ma of abusing runners in brutal training sessions and pocketing their winnings. She started her own group, composed mainly of Ma's former runners but their performance has been miserable.

"The disbanding of 'Ma's Army' is not only a tragedy to Ma and the athletes but also to China's sports," the China Daily said.

"Both Ma Junren and his former students should have a lot of lessons to draw from the incident," the newspaper said in reference to their exclusion from the World Championships.

China is to take part in 17 events in the coming World Championships, with most athletes competing for the first time.

## Joyce torpedoes Courier to lift local spirits

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Los Angeles native Michael Joyce added another match to his growing list here Thursday with a second-round victory over third-seeded Jim Courier in the ATP Tour Infinite Open.

Joyce, 22, has climbed to 87th in the world this year and reached the fourth round of Wimbledon after battling through shoulder injuries and illness.

He upset the world number 17, owner of four Grand Slam titles, 7-6 (7/4), 7-5 (4/6).

Joyce got the only service break of the match in the final game as Courier sailed a forehand long. He had failed to convert his first match point in the 10th game, but the 22-year-old was delighted with his performance.

Joyce rated his victory over Courier on a level with wins earlier this year over Michael Stich — his first top-10 victim — and Marc Rosset in the first round at Wimbledon.

"I've won a few big matches this year and players go back and make some excuse," Joyce said. "I know he played well."

Courier seemed to want to come up with an excuse, but couldn't produce a convincing one.

"I'd say my level of play was not my highest," Courier said. "I can't point to any specifics. It was just a close match."

In the quarter-finals Joyce will face fifth-seeded Swede Thomas Enqvist, who beat Italian Cristiano Caratti 6-2, 7-6 (7/2).

Enqvist has won three tournaments this year and he claimed two impressive scalps — Andre Agassi and Pete Sampras — en route to victory in Philadelphia.

"I have some good wins," said Enqvist, who had surgery on both of his knees last year. "You know you're on the right way when you play a close match against top players."

Top seed Goran Ivanisevic on the other hand, did not seem at all confident of his path.

He reached the quarters, despite the onset of the strange malaise that grips him when he plays in the United States, with a 6-4, 6-2 victory over error-prone Jim Grabb.

The Croatian, whose 11 career victories do not include a single U.S. tournament, said he had a mental block about hard courts, even though his big-serving game should be ideally suited to the surface.

## GOREN BRIDGE

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### WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

- Q.1 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠ A Q 8 7 3 ♠ A Q 10 9 2 4 K  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
2 ♠ Pass 3 ♠ Pass  
What action do you take?
- Q.2 — Both vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠ A J 8 7 6 5 ♠ A 10 9 7 2 ♠ J 6 3  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
Pass 1 NT Pass Pass  
Dbl Pass  
What action do you take?
- Q.3 — As South, vulnerable, you hold:  
♠ A J 8 7 6 5 ♠ A Q 8 3 ♠ 6 8  
The bidding has proceeded:  
North East South West  
1 ♠ Dbl Pass 1 ♠ Pass  
Pass ?  
What action do you take?
- Q.4 — Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:  
♠ A K 9 8 7 6 5 ♠ A Q 8 7 6 5 ♠ A 10 9 8 7 6 5 ♠ A 10 9 8 7 6 5  
The bidding has proceeded:  
South West North East  
2 ♠ Pass 2 NT 3 ♠  
What action do you take?

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## Yankee newcomers spark victory

NEW YORK (R) — The two newest Yankees came up big for New York Thursday to spark the Bronx bombers to 5-4 comeback victory over the Milwaukee Brewers.

Ruben Sierra's two-run double snapped a tie, and highlighted a four-run eighth inning as the New York Yankees rallied from a 3-1 deficit to bring David Cone a victory in his first Yankee stadium start.

Gerald Williams lifted a sacrifice fly and Paul O'Neill lined a run-scoring single to tie the game. Sierra belted a line drive double over the head of centerfielder David Hulse to bring two more runs across in the eighth-inning uprising.

"It was exciting," said Sierra, acquired in a trade with Oakland. "It's the situation I like to be in — with the game on the line."

Cone (11-6) picked up his second win in as many starts for New York since coming in a trade with Toronto. Cone went eight innings, giving up three runs and five hits before giving way to John Wetteland, who notched his 20th save.

In Detroit, Red Sox saviour Tim Wakefield waited through a two-hour 25-minute rain delay then continued to shut down the Tigers with his baffling knuckleball in a 10-2 win for Boston.

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## NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION PREVENTION AND WATER CONSERVATION

The Amman Chamber of Industry in cooperation with the Ministry of Water and Irrigation and USAID intends to hold a "National Conference on Industrial Pollution Prevention" for two days in the Chamber Grand Hall around mid January 1996. The objectives of this scientific seminar is to exchange information and practical experience on techniques for wastewater recycling and reuse.

The Chamber invites the concerned specialists in this field to submit scientific papers on the subject. Specific topics include:

- Successful Industrial Case Histories.
- Implementing Pollution Prevention Programmes;
- Source Reduction to minimise waste;
- Recycling (Onsite and Offsite use and reuse, Reclamation to minimise waste).

Abstract must be submitted (in one page 500 words) by September 14, 1995. Authors will be notified by October 16, 1995. Papers must be submitted in final form by November 16, 1995.

All abstracts, papers and inquiries, if any, are to be addressed to the Amman Chamber of Industry, Environment Dept. and Office of Pollution Prevention, P.O.Box 1800, Amman Tel: 643001.

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